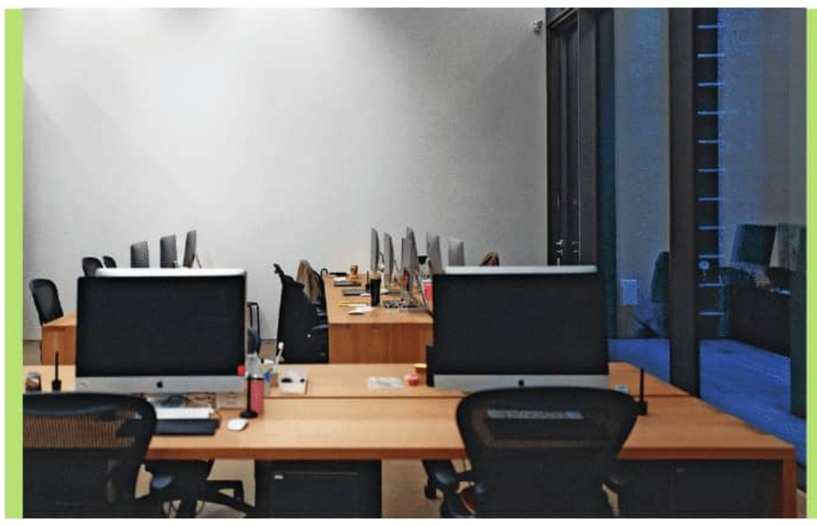
BENGALURU, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 13 | Humidity 29% Partly sunny Sensex 85,267 | Nifty 26,046 | Gold 1,33,622 | Silver 1,92,615 | Dollar 90.58 | Euro 106.05 | GBP 121.08



UPS AND DOWNS

Of a total 6,385 startups across India that have been dissolved or struck off, Karnataka contributes to over 13%

PAGE 6

DO NOT ENTER

Across city, parks remain shut at all hours though govt order mandates that they be kept open 5 am-10 pm

PAGE 7

Bengaluru recorded 502 cases under POCSO this year till November 15, but so far there have been zero convictions: Lack of evidence, weak probes, victims and families turning hostile, lengthy trials — all end up in denial of justice

A CRYING SHAME

Experts say accused is often familiar person in cases involving children aged 1-14

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Not a single conviction has been recorded in Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) cases this year, raising serious questions about the effectiveness of the criminal justice system and the support extended to survivors. Official data that was represented in the Belagavi winter session revealed that though hundreds of cases are being registered across the city, conviction rates stand at zero. "More than assault itself, it is social stigma that forces victims into silence, hindering police evidence collection," says Rajalaxmi Ankalagi, advocate.

According to the data, a total of 3,954 cases have been registered across the state in 2025 up to November 15. Of these, Bengaluru City recorded 502 cases, Bengaluru South reported 92 cases, and Bengaluru District registered 111 cases. In Bengaluru City alone, 344 cases are still pending trial, while 188 cases remain under investigation.

Overall in Karnataka, only six accused have been convicted so far. Alarmingly, out of the total cases,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

"FSL medical samples must ideally be collected within 48 hours; after that, evidence can be lost as the child goes about routine activities. During these critical 48 hours, parents are often overwhelmed, unsure whether to file a complaint or not. By the time they decide, precious time has already passed

—Rajalaxmi Ankalagi, advocate

4 years of inaction, now a reaction

Which is worse? Losing savings to cheat fund, then threatened at gunpoint or police not taking up complaint till NGO's intervention

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The police are duty-bound to take complaints from the public and register first information reports (FIRs) based on the nature of complaints. And though there are instances of police inspectors being suspended for not registering FIRs, one woman has had to wait for four years to get her complaint heard or scrutinised by the jurisdictional police.

According to the documents available with Bangalore Mirror, the complainant Munirathnamma approached Marathahalli Police to lodge a complaint against Krishnamurthy for threatening and cheating in October 2021. She visited the Commissioner of Police Office on October 7, 2021, to complain against the accused as well as Marathahalli Police for not taking her complaint. The staff at the Commissioner of Police received the complaint and issued an acknowledgement to her but did nothing.

"I visited Marathahalli Police Station and also the ACP Office but they advised me to go to court as the complaint is civil in nature. Then I approached Vijay Dennis, an RTI activist, who lodged a complaint with the National Commission for Women on December 9. Now, after four years, the Marathahalli Police, issued a notice on December 11 asking me to submit

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Pop culture

Bengaluru Comic Con unites global pop culture stars, Indian creators, cosplayers, and gamers. Guests include actor Robert Capron and voice artist Chloé Hollings. Over 20 Indian comic writers and illustrators will also take part.
Where: KTPO, Whitefield;
When: December 20 & 21

02 Kalari demo

Movement artist Chandramohan presents a lecture-demonstration on Kalaripayattu, exploring animal-inspired movements and their link to balance, strength and intuition. Free with prior registration.
Where: MAP Bengaluru, Ashok Nagar;
When: December 14, 5 to 6:30 pm

03 Art & nature

Sublime Galleria hosts Tranquil Balance, an exhibition by Pragya Jain, co-founder of Artychoke. The collection explores nature's quiet rhythms, celebrating elements that sustain life—air, water, nourishment, love, and growth. Through geometry, lines, and shifting forms, Jain reflects on culture, heritage, and human stories.

Where: Sublime Galleria, 8th Floor, UB City;
When: December 12 to January 4

04 Music & environment

Padma Shri awardee and three-time Grammy winner Ricky Kej presents Music for the Planet, a multimedia talk exploring how music can inspire environmental awareness and global change. Through storytelling, visuals, and personal experiences, Ricky shares insights from his journey as a musician and climate advocate. Note: This is a talk, not a concert.
Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield;
When: December 19, 7:30 pm

05 Origami workshop

Sound of Paper, founded by architect and teacher Pooja Ugrani, presents a hands-on origami workshop for all ages. Participants will learn to create paper decorations perfect for holiday trees while exploring the art of patterns, tessellations, and collective paper installations.
Where: Urban Solace, Ulsoor;
When: December 14, 4:30 pm to 6 pm

Handmade cheer replaces holiday plastic

Earth-conscious Christmas trends gain momentum through women-led initiatives

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

This Christmas, eco-friendly decorations are gaining attention as a sustainable alternative to the usual plastic-laden décor that dominates festive celebrations. With most commercial decorations made from non-biodegradable materials that harm the environment, many individuals are promoting sustainable products, DIY alternatives, and reusable options crafted from natural or recycled materials.

A group of women near the Karnataka–Tamil Nadu border is changing the festive landscape with sustainable alternatives. They have crafted beautiful Christmas decorations, including fairy lights, wreaths, hangings and stars, entirely from bamboo. The initiative is led by GreenKraft, a collective owned by women-led producer groups with over 1,000 members across rural communities in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Odisha. Incubated by the Industree Foundation, a Bengaluru-based nonprofit, these groups specialise in creating high-quality, handwoven products using natural materials such as banana bark, bamboo and sal leaves.

Savitha Krishna from GreenKraft said, "All the products created by women producers at GreenKraft are handcrafted using natural fibres such as bamboo and banana bark, which are sourced locally. Since 2012, our goal has been to support women by creating steady demand for natural fibre products. This helps improve the quality of their work, makes their products more competitive and increases productivity, while ensuring fair wages, regular income and greater control over their lives. We have observed notable improvements in the lives of rural women, not only in tangible aspects such as building houses and purchasing vehicles, but also in their self-confidence, health investments and savings for future generations."

Rural communities create natural fibre holiday décor

A women-led collective backed by GreenKraft is creating eco-conscious decorations from natural fibres, offering sustainable alternatives while generating steady livelihoods in rural communities

According to Krishna, over 95 per cent of Christmas decorations available in the market are made from plastic—non-biodegradable materials mostly imported from China. "Our home décor range, however, is handcrafted by rural women producers. From carefully selecting the finest raw materials to ensuring quality, our producers meticulously craft each piece, delivering exceptional products that embody elegance and excellence in every detail. The decorations are made from 100 per cent natural materials such as bamboo and banana bark," she said.

Krishna added that GreenKraft supports women producers by creating opportunities that are both accessible and empowering. Women first receive essential hard-skill training to master product-making techniques, along with soft-skill and gender training to build confidence, communication skills and personal growth. Since many of these women live in remote villages in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu with limited livelihood options, GreenKraft has established production units within their communities. As a result, they no longer have to travel more than five kilometres in search of work. With regular employment and a stable income available close to home, women are able to support their families while continuing to live in their villages.

Earth-friendly celebrations

Odette Katrak from Beautiful Bharat said, "Every year, through our Green Celebrations campaign, we encourage people to celebrate in more sustainable ways. This Christmas, our focus is on earth-friendly decorations made from waste materials such as twigs, old newspapers and toilet roll tubes. Many people enjoy DIY projects to make their celebrations greener. We also promote sustainable gift-wrapping ideas. Cloth napkins, for example, can be used as reusable gift wraps, offering a stylish finish without generating waste, while DIY gift boxes are another creative option. Wraps that are reusable, recyclable or made from waste are preferred."

She added that creating gift boxes is simple and fun, especially when made from waste packaging. One can start by gathering boxes, bags or containers suitable for gifts or storage, along with decorative materials such as old gift paper, ribbons or chocolate wrappers. Handles can be reused from ribbons, jute ropes or old bags. Folding the box flaps inward and shaping the sides into a gift-bag form, then decorating with festive red and green cut-outs or bows made from candy wrappers, gives the gift a personal and earth-friendly touch.

Katrak urged people to avoid foil wrapping, plastics and other disposable materials that eventually end up in landfills.

Thousands hungry despite big spending

As the number of gig workers grows in sectors such as ride-hailing, food and goods delivery, and home services, the state government has prepared a framework to establish a welfare board under the recently enacted law to safeguard their interests. The board's structure, responsibilities and fund management have been finalised, with clear guidelines outlining the roles of the president, members, invitees, meetings and financial operations.

An official said: "Once the board is set up, aggregators and platforms operating in the state must register on a dedicated web portal, providing details of their operations. Multiple entities managing several platforms under the law will also be required to register. Safety measures such as a panic button in apps, first-aid guidance and safe-practice information will be mandatory for all gig workers."

Officials said that, once approved by the government each financial year, the board will use its decisions and annual budget to provide benefits, including life insurance, accident compensation, disability support, medical coverage, maternity assistance, old-age support and other social security measures, as determined over time.

"Workers will have a 30-day window for registration, after which the board will issue unique registration numbers and certificates. This will be supported by an automated system for monitoring and decision-making to ensure smooth functioning and worker protection," the official added. **–BMB**

State moves to protect gig workers

As the number of gig workers grows in sectors such as ride-hailing, food and goods delivery, and home services, the state government has prepared a framework to establish a welfare board under the recently enacted law to safeguard their interests. The board's structure, responsibilities and fund management have been finalised, with clear guidelines outlining the roles of the president, members, invitees, meetings and financial operations.

An official said: "Once the board is set up, aggregators and platforms operating in the state must register on a dedicated web portal, providing details of their operations. Multiple entities managing several platforms under the law will also be required to register. Safety measures such as a panic button in apps, first-aid guidance and safe-practice information will be mandatory for all gig workers."

New board to safeguard gig economy staff

Officials said that, once approved by the government each financial year, the board will use its decisions and annual budget to provide benefits, including life insurance, accident compensation, disability support, medical coverage, maternity assistance, old-age support and other social security measures. "Workers will have a 30-day window for registration, after which the board will issue unique registration numbers and certificates. This will be supported by an automated system for monitoring and decision-making to ensure smooth functioning and worker protection," the official added. **–BMB**

Auto driver returns bag with cash, phone: 'Only did what was right'

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In an act of honesty that has won hearts, an auto-rickshaw driver in the city returned a bag containing an Aadhaar card, a mobile phone, a wallet with cash and other essential items to a passenger, who had accidentally left it behind during a ride on Saturday. The passenger had hired the auto for a short commute and got down at their destination in a hurry, forgetting the bag in the back seat. Puttu (33), from Hassan, has been driving an auto from the past 9 to 10 years. He said in recent days, other than the bag, he has also returned four lost mobile phones. The driver discovered the bag a few minutes after dropping the passenger.

Puttu told BM that he initially assumed the passenger had forgotten an empty bag. However, when he checked it, he found several valuable items inside. To avoid any suspicion, he first recorded a video showing the contents of the bag before touching anything. He then noticed that the mobile phone inside was not locked and Google Maps was open. On checking the call history, he found several missed calls and contacted the passenger. He asked whether they would prefer to collect the bag from a nearby location or if he should hand it over at a police station. The passenger chose to collect it directly. Puttu later travelled to the passenger's location and personally returned the bag. The relieved passenger thanked the driver for his honesty and presence of mind. When asked what prompted him to return the bag, Puttu played down the gesture, stating that it was simply his responsibility. "I don't want anyone else's belongings, nor do I want to face legal trouble by keeping something that isn't mine. I also don't want to be blamed for anything. If someone later claims money is missing, what would I do? Should I sell my house and sit quietly? To avoid such situations, I am ready to travel even 15 to 20 km to return it. It didn't belong to me. I only did what was right," he said.

bigbasket
A TATA Enterprise
Sundae plans?
Sorted in minutes.
MilkyMist
capella bar
Almond Ice Cream
Amul
CHOCOLATE
Dairy Milk
Chocolates & Ice Creams
Delivered in 10 Minutes!*
Free Delivery on your first 4 orders
Images are for illustration purposes only. *T&C apply. For more details, offers, terms & conditions visit the bigbasket app or log on to bigbasket.com/FAQ
PENTAGON 13224

FILM PAGE 16 Tracking a love story

CRIME FILES

Police constable suspended after eloping with married woman

A police constable attached to the HSR Layout Police Station has been accused of eloping with a married woman he befriended on social media.

The accused has been identified as Raghavendra, a police constable from North Karnataka, who was working as a Hoysala patrol driver at the HSR Layout Police Station. He has been placed under suspension pending inquiry.

The woman, Monica, who hails from Mysuru, and is a social media content creator, had been married for over 15 years and has a 12-year-old son. According to a complaint lodged by her husband at the Chandra Layout Police Station, Monica came in contact with the constable through Instagram around June this year. Within two months, their online interactions allegedly intensified, with frequent phone conversations and regular meetings.

Police sources said that around three months ago, Monica had herself approached the police, expressing her desire to rebuild her life and sought counselling for her husband. Acting on this, Chandra Layout police summoned the husband to the station. However, while he was there, Monica allegedly returned home and fled with 160 grams of gold jewellery and ₹1.80 lakh in cash. She later stopped responding to calls, police said.

The husband claimed that after accessing Monica's Instagram account, he found chat records allegedly exchanged between her and constable Raghavendra, prompting him to file a formal complaint alleging theft and cheating.

After the issue reached senior officials, the constable was suspended. However, the complainant has alleged that despite this, Raghavendra continued to threaten him, including issuing death threats and threatening to kill his minor son. Police officials said these allegations are being verified. —BMB

Hit-and-run on NICE Road: 2 women killed

Two women labourers were killed on the spot in a hit-and-run incident after a speeding SUV knocked them down while they were crossing NICE Road near the Hosakerehalli toll plaza on Friday evening. Police have arrested the driver of the vehicle.

The deceased have been identified as Rangamma (45) and Choudamma (50), residents of RR Nagar and natives of Yadgir district. The accused, Satyanarayana (40), a resident of Katriguppe in Banashankari, is employed with a private firm.

According to the police, the accident took place around 6.15 pm when the women, hired by a private contractor for road-related work along the NICE Road stretch, were heading back home after work with a colleague.

While the trio was crossing the road, the SUV heading towards Magadi Road rammed into the two women, killing them instantly. The male labourer narrowly escaped with minor injuries. The driver allegedly did not stop the vehicle and fled the scene.

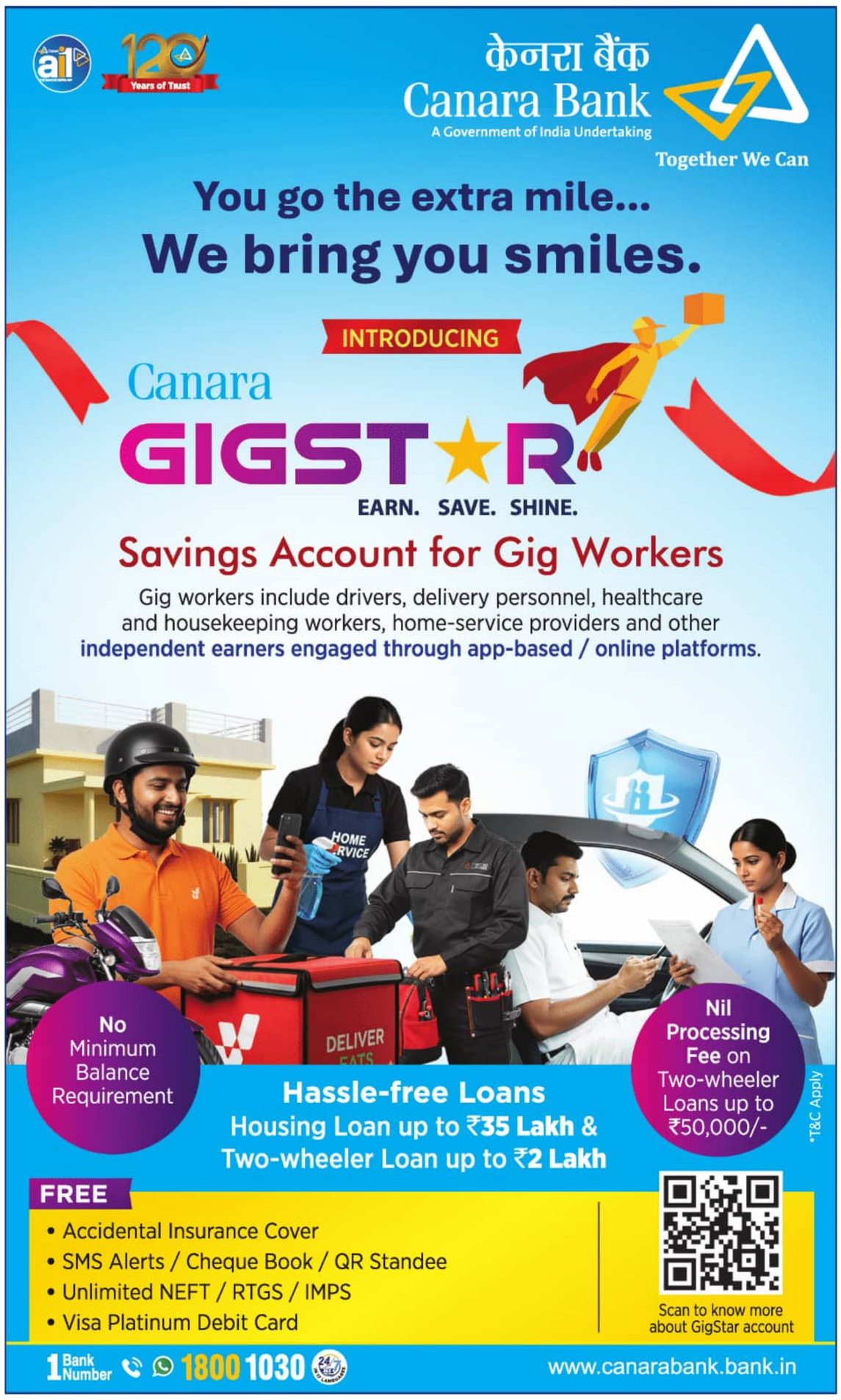
The Kengeri police traced the vehicle using CCTV footage. The accused, who was taken into custody on Saturday was later released on bail as probe indicated there was no designated pedestrian crossing on that stretch of NICE Road. —BMB

Air gun firing: Law student arrested

Basavanagudi police have arrested a law student in connection with an air gun firing incident in which a 57-year-old businessman was injured near Krishna Rao (KR) Park on December 10. The victim, identified as Vidyadi Sri Rajagopal, is undergoing treatment as an inpatient at The Bangalore Hospital, where he was admitted on December 11.

The accused has been identified as Afzal, a law student residing in a nearby apartment. Police said he was using an air gun for shooting practice inside his flat. Afzal had allegedly placed a target near the window of his apartment and was firing pellets when one of them missed the target and travelled outside the building.

—BMB


केनरा बैंक
Canara Bank
A Government of India Undertaking
Together We Can
You go the extra mile...
We bring you smiles.
INTRODUCING
Canara
GIGSTAR
EARN. SAVE. SHINE.
Savings Account for Gig Workers
Gig workers include drivers, delivery personnel, healthcare and housekeeping workers, home-service providers and other independent earners engaged through app-based / online platforms.
HOME SERVICE
DELIVER EATS
No Minimum Balance Requirement
Nil Processing Fee on Two-wheeler Loans up to ₹50,000/-
*T&C Apply
Hassle-free Loans
Housing Loan up to ₹35 Lakh &
Two-wheeler Loan up to ₹2 Lakh
FREE
• Accidental Insurance Cover
• SMS Alerts / Cheque Book / QR Standee
• Unlimited NEFT / RTGS / IMPS
• Visa Platinum Debit Card
Scan to know more about GigStar account
1 Bank Number
1800 1030
www.canarabank.bank.in

Super concrete, speedy flyovers: GBA's big push

Ultra-high performance concrete promises faster flyovers, longer lifespan, lower maintenance, reshaping B'luru's elevated corridor construction landscape significantly

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

UHPFRC technology set to reshape Bengaluru flyover building approach

Officials note that use of UHPFRC is expected to reduce construction costs by 25 per cent and project timelines by 20 per cent, based on benchmarks from Maharashtra, though local estimates suggest higher costs

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) is mulling the introduction of ultra-high performance fibre reinforced concrete (UHPFRC) in the construction of upcoming elevated corridors and flyovers to ensure faster execution and durability. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has approved the technology to replace conventional prestressed concrete girders used in older projects such as the Ejipura flyover. UHPFRC, made with steel fibres, offers higher strength, requires minimal maintenance, and is expected to last over 120 years. Earlier limited to Germany and China, several Indian manufacturers, including units in Bikaner, Rajasthan, now produce UHPFRC, reducing the need for imports.

Sources said the planned corridors include both two-lane and three-lane flyovers with a total length exceeding 123 kilometres, at an estimated cost of 25,567 crore. TAC-approved corridors include Sarjapur to Silk Board, Raggigudda to Talaghattapura, and Yelahanka Newtown to Kempegowda International Airport. Proposals such as the Nayandahalli junction to Mysuru Road Expressway were not approved due to overlaps with ongoing projects. Each UHPFRC segment weighs about seven tonnes, compared with 32 tonnes for conventional concrete, enabling faster transportation and on-site assembly.

Officials noted that the use of UHPFRC is expected to reduce construction costs by 25 per cent and project timelines by 20 per cent, based on benchmarks from Maharashtra, though local estimates suggest higher costs. Priority corridors include Minerva Circle to Hudson Circle and Shoolay Circle to St John's Church, passing through arterial roads to ease congestion.

Junction development lag

Meanwhile, at a meeting, GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao directed officials to expedite development works under the Suraksha 75 Junctions initiative across Greater Bengaluru. He instructed Chief Engineers to inspect proposed junctions, commence work without delay, and revise designs wherever required. Rao stressed monitoring, corporation-wise review meetings, and regular submission of progress reports to ensure timely completion.

Across city corporations, work is at different stages. South City Corporation has work under way at eight of 10 junctions, with two work orders issued. Central City Corporation has four junctions in progress and 14 work orders issued out of 18. North City Corporation has six ongoing works and five work orders out of 11. West City Corporation has five junctions under execution and 10 work orders out of 15. East City Corporation has four ongoing works and five work orders out of nine. Key junctions include Hudson Circle, NR Square, Dairy Circle, Brigade Circle, Ashoka Pillar Circle, Town Hall, Mayo Hall, Nehru Circle and Upparpet Circle, where officials were instructed to complete remaining work swiftly, as most projects are nearing completion.

THE ORIENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Regional Office, G.S. Road, Ulubari, Guwahati-781007

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT
(The High Court of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram & Arunachal Pradesh)
(Civil Appellant Jurisdiction)
MAC Appeal No. 128/2018
The Oriental Insurance Company Ltd.
..... Appellant
-vs-
Hosneara Begum & Ors.
..... Respondents

To, Sri K. Nagaraj, S/o: Kamaiah, R/o: Village- No. 224/26, Jauaram Compound, Rajarajeswari Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, PIN - 560008.

Whereas, the appellant above named The Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. has preferred an appeal before the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court against the Judgment and award dated 28.07.2017, passed by the learned Member, Motor Accident Claims Tribunal No. 3, Kamrup (M) at Guwahati in MAC Case No. 564/2008 (622/2008). The aforesaid appeal has been fixed on 28.01.2026.

You are hereby asked to appear before the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court on 28.01.2026 at 10:30 a.m. either personally or through Counsel for contesting the case.

If you fail to appear on the date and time so fixed, case will be heard and decided ex-parte in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this the 8th day of December, 2025 at Guwahati.

Sd/-, Deputy Registrar
Gauhati High Court, Guwahati.

Promised ORR bus lane remains stalled

The long-promised Bus Priority Lane on Outer Ring Road remains stalled three years after abandonment despite recent review. No revival steps have begun though over 300 BMTC buses run more than 3,300 daily trips on ORR. Nearly half of air-conditioned buses crawl through congestion, causing delays, higher fuel use, and rising operational costs. When 17-km KR Puram–Silk Board lane briefly operated in 2019, buses arrived fifteen minutes faster and saved fuel, but plan remains shelved, with commuters waiting for promised relief

A new Bengaluru Traffic Police study reveals volume-to-capacity ratio on ORR and Sarjapur Road is two to three times above acceptable limits. Police officials warn congestion will persist unless many IT corridor employees shift to BMTC buses. With Blue Line metro still at least 18 months away, transport activists say only a dedicated bus-priority lane offers immediate relief.

BMTC buses crawl through persistent ORR congestion

Mobility experts estimate that one bus can replace nearly 30 private vehicles, easing traffic pressure instantly. A revived priority lane could boost public transport usage by 15–20%. Although BMTC has sought coordination with BMRCL, BBMP, and BTP, overlapping projects have delayed progress. For thousands of daily commuters, the irony persists: ORR's bus "priority" lane still lacks priority. **–BMB**

Dense fog causes BMTC mishap

A mishap was averted when a BMTC bus collided with a tractor near Cauvery Junction Saturday. The incident occurred between 5.45 am and 6.10 am, when dense fog severely reduced visibility. According to police, the bus was travelling from Yelahanka New Town to Majestic when it rammed into a tractor engaged in roadside garbage collection. Poor visibility reportedly prevented the driver from noticing the slow moving vehicle in time. The impact damaged the front portion of the bus and the tractor. The bus driver suffered minor injuries and was given first aid, while passengers escaped unhurt. Sadashivanagar traffic police rushed to the spot, cleared vehicles and regulated traffic. Normal flow was restored. Police registered a case; both sides filed complaints, with only minor injuries reported. **–BMB**

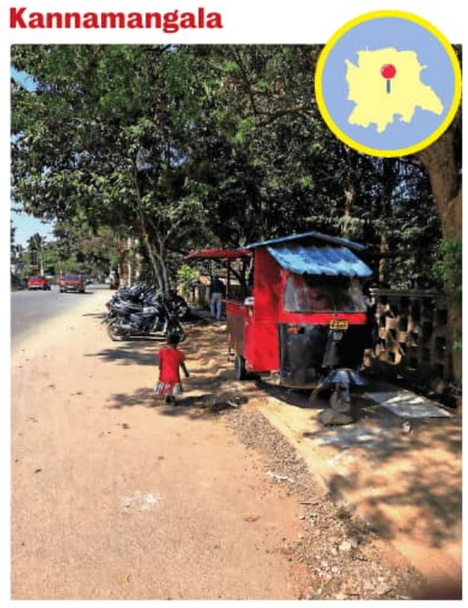
whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Unsafe walkway
Sivananda Circle

Footpath near Sivananda Circle, opposite a party hall, poses serious danger to pedestrians.

Footpath encroachment
Kannamangala



Vehicles, including a restaurant delivery van with faulty number plates, parked on Kannamangala Main Road footpath, force residents onto the road.

Road danger
Lavelle Road

A deep pothole near Richmond Circle on Lavelle Road remains unbarricaded, posing hazard due to ongoing BBMP/BWSSB work.

AI tackles learner licence fraud

Karnataka deploys Smart Lock system to curb proxy exam fraud

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The Transport Department's AI monitors online LLR tests to detect fraud and link records to the Sarathi Parivahan Portal

The Karnataka Transport Department has rolled out a cutting-edge 'Smart Lock' system across the state to prevent malpractice in the Learner's Licence (LLR) exam. The initiative leverages artificial intelligence to ensure transparency and curb rampant complaints of candidates obtaining LLRs without appearing for the online exam by paying middlemen, cyber centres, or driving schools.

Rampant LLR fraud

Investigations revealed a widespread scheme where proxy candidates appear for online LLR exams, allowing applicants to secure learner licences and later permanent driving licences (DLs) without attending. Thousands reportedly exploit this loophole daily, often lacking basic knowledge of driving and traffic rules, leading to a surge in road accidents. The Transport Department, recognising the threat, has deployed the Smart Lock system to close these loopholes and ensure real-time monitoring.

After submitting an application, candidates must appear in front of a computer, laptop, or mobile screen. The AI-based software monitors behaviour during the exam, tracking head movement, hand gestures, and eye focus. Each candidate is photographed and recorded, while timed questions on traffic rules, symbols, and road signs appear on the screen. Any attempt by a proxy or receiving remote help is detected, and the system automatically invalidates the exam, rejecting the application.

A transport department official said, "The Smart Lock system is integrated with the Sarathi Parivahan Service Portal, making all LLR and DL processes—from document submission to fee payment—fully online. Only two applications are permitted per IP address, preventing cyber centres, driving schools, or middlemen from submitting multiple applications for several candidates. Attempts to bypass this limit result in automatic rejection."

Technology-driven oversight

According to Transport Commissioner AM Yogish, this AI-enabled system functions as a real-time digital invigilator approved by the central government. It ensures that LLR exams are taken legitimately, maintaining the integrity of the licensing process while reducing fraud and enhancing road safety. Bengaluru takes the lead in using AI to make driving licence issuance more secure and efficient, combining convenience with stronger anti-fraud measures.

Ignored RTI, hit with fine

Bengaluru North Assistant Commissioner Dr Kiran and Tahsildar Madhuraj were fined 25,000 each for failing to provide information under the RTI Act and repeatedly skipping hearings. The commission noted negligence, recommended a departmental inquiry, and warned officials to comply with deadlines or face further penalties. The cases arose after residents Venkatesh and Chandrappa received no response to property record requests in Dommasandra and family property matters.

—BMB

Save our strays: Students stage silent protest

Members of Students for Streeties, a student community working for the welfare of stray dogs, gathered in the city on Sunday afternoon to protect the animals on campuses from what the group calls a 'violent and unfair' future.

Students from various colleges and organisations came together to act in the interest of campus dogs, who are already being fed, sterilised, and medicated by robust on-campus welfare groups. They also aimed to spread awareness about the SC's order, which they allege was made without due diligence.

Notably, last month, the SC passed an order instructing municipal bodies to remove stray dogs from public premises such as schools, colleges, hospitals, and bus stations, and shift them to shelter homes.

"We have come together to raise our voice against the SC's verdict stating that municipalities must capture campus dogs for vaccination and sterilisation, before housing them in designated shelters. We want to emphasise that this is not an effective or ethical approach. Moreover, these 'designated shelters' are already running at maximum capacity," said a student and member of Students for Streeties. Members stated that displacing animals has a well-documented, negative impact on their health.

Community care, coupled with robust ABC and ARV programmes, is the way forward towards management of the stray dog population. On the contrary, the SC's order, if implemented, will slow down the ABC/ARV process by consuming resources.

"With strong systems like a 24/7 Rabies Helpline, ring vaccination, and ABC surgeries, Bengaluru has been human-rabies free, and this should be extended statewide. Authorities must release hundreds of stray dogs captured against the ABC Rule of 2023. As per the SC's order, dogs can be picked up only if there are shelters and secured campuses, which isn't being followed," said a member.

The silent protest saw student representatives from Streeties for Students, All Paws Community, CARE, Citizens for Animal Birth Control, and Ulsoor Canine Squad join in. They urged the state to implement the scientific and compassionate ABC rules to manage stray dog populations. "Our appeal to the government: file an affidavit with the SC to implement ABC in Karnataka, set an example for other states, and avoid spending crores on shelters when ABC and ARV are more effective," they added.

—BMB

SPOTLIGHT

AMET University culminates "Guru Ratna Teachers' Awards 2025" for Karnataka with successful participation from 31 Districts.

AMET University, Chennai, in collaboration with the Dr. J. Ramachandran Maritime Foundation, formally announces the successful conduct of the Guru Ratna Teachers' Awards 2025 for the State of Karnataka. The award ceremony was held on 7th December 2025 at Shri Janakiraman Auditorium, AMET University.

In an overwhelming response, the initiative garnered nearly 700 registrations from Teachers, Principals, and Academic Heads across 31 districts of Karnataka. After a systematic assessment and screening process, 100 educators were selected for recognition under 10 categories, in acknowledgment of their excellence in academic and co-curricular domains.

Dr. J. Ramachandran, Founder and Chancellor, AMET University (Chief Guest), Dr. D. Rajasekar, Director – Branding (Welcome Address), Prof. Dr. V. Rajendran, Vice Chancellor (Keynote Address), and Dr. V. Sangeetha Albin, Registrar (i/c) (Vote of Thanks) presided over the event.

Awardees received Certificates, Medals, and Mementos, along with attractive cash prizes. AMET University also provided transportation and accommodation for all the award recipients. The "Guru Ratna Teachers' Awards 2025" stands as a significant initiative to acknowledge the contributions of the teaching fraternity of Karnataka. AMET University expresses its appreciation to all participants and extends congratulations to the award recipients for their exemplary service to the field of education.

High hopes, high failures in B'luru's startup culture

Startup shutdown numbers highlight challenges around market fit, funding access, and scalability within Bengaluru's otherwise vibrant innovation ecosystem

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Innovation thrives, survival falters across Bengaluru's startup landscape

Bengaluru, long hailed as the "Silicon Valley of India" and the cradle of the country's startup ecosystem, is facing a sobering reality check. Known for its dynamic entrepreneurial energy, innovation labs, and vibrant venture capital landscape, the city has nurtured thousands of early-stage ventures over the past decade. However, recent data from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) presents a startling picture. Karnataka alone accounts for 845 closed startups as of November 11, 2025, the highest among all states. Of the 6,385 startups across India that have been dissolved or struck off, Karnataka contributes over 13 percent, highlighting growing volatility within the ecosystem.

State comparison

Maharashtra leads with 1,200 closures, accounting for 18.8 percent of the national total, followed by Delhi with 737 closures, or 11.5 percent. Telangana, with 368 closures, and Tamil Nadu, with 338, also feature prominently, though their figures remain well below Karnataka's despite being significant technology and startup hubs. Smaller states such as Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Mizoram report minimal closures, underlining how entrepreneurial risk remains concentrated in high-density startup regions. Analysts say this contrast reflects the dual nature of Bengaluru: while it fosters innovation, early-stage ventures remain especially vulnerable to market pressures, funding uncertainties, and operational challenges.

Business reality

Addressing the issue in Parliament, Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada said the government has not observed any increase in startup closures. He noted that closures are generally influenced by business model viability, alignment with market demand, domestic and global economic conditions, product or service nature, funding access, and other business-specific factors. His remarks reinforce the view that closures are an inherent part of the entrepreneurial lifecycle, though Karnataka's numbers raise concerns about ecosystem resilience.

Market challenges

The elevated closure rate in Bengaluru mirrors common startup challenges, including poor market fit, cash-flow stress, and difficulties in attracting and retaining skilled talent. Even as the city continues to draw new investments, the attrition rate suggests only ventures with strong scalability and product-market alignment endure. Experts warn that a single state contributing 13 percent of national startup closures signals the need for greater caution among investors and policymakers alike.

Analysts say contrast reflects Bengaluru's dual nature, fostering innovation while early-stage ventures remain vulnerable to market pressures, funding uncertainty, and operational challenges

Robust business models

For entrepreneurs, the takeaway is clear. Innovation alone cannot ensure survival. Sustainable business models, realistic growth strategies, and operational discipline remain critical. As Karnataka continues shaping India's startup narrative, stakeholders must strengthen support systems to improve survival rates and long-term ecosystem stability. These figures, while unsettling, underline necessity for coordinated responses, stronger mentoring networks, smarter capital deployment, and realistic expectations, ensuring innovation-driven growth remains sustainable without eroding confidence in Bengaluru's longstanding role as India's most influential startup hub. Policy attention and ecosystem recalibration now become essential priorities for the state going forward decisively.

Second capital airport project gets green signal

The Karnataka State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (KSIIDC) has invited tenders to appoint an expert consultancy firm to prepare a location suitability study and a comprehensive technical and financial feasibility report for the proposed second international airport in the State capital. The last date for submission of applications is January 12, 2026, Infrastructure Development Minister M B Patil said. The government has identified three potential sites: Choodahalli and Somanahalli on Kanakapura Road, and a location near Nelamangala. A high-level team from the Airports Authority of India has inspected these sites and submitted a preliminary report. Firms that have executed projects worth at least Rs 250 crore annually over the past five years, and have handled or prepared consultancy reports for a minimum of five relevant projects, are eligible. The selected firm will study rainfall patterns, topography, power and water supply, sewerage, waste management, surrounding population, regional development, and noise pollution. The feasibility report must also include estimated development costs, land requirements, and approvals from authorities including the Ministry of Defence and DGCA. **-PTI**

Aland voter fraud: Chargesheet names 7 accused

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) has filed a charge sheet in Bengaluru's Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate court in connection with alleged voter fraud in the Aland Assembly constituency, sources said on Saturday. The move comes just a day before the Congress's planned protest at Ramlila Maidan in Delhi over the same issue.

The 22,000-page charge sheet names seven accused, including former BJP MLA Subhash Guttedar and his son Harshanand. The SIT alleged that a call centre was established and 5,994 votes were deleted from the electoral rolls in Aland. Investigators claimed digital evidence recovered during raids confirmed the manipulation, and payments were made to facilitate the alleged fraud. The SIT was constituted under senior IPS officer BK Singh following allegations by Congress MLA BR Patil. Guttedar and his son had earlier secured bail. Reacting to the filing, Harshanand called the case politically motivated, alleging officials were misused to target them. He claimed the case remained dormant for nearly two years and was revived only after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi raised the matter.

Harshanand challenged the allegations, asserting no laptops or evidence were recovered from their residence and promising to contest the claims in court.

-IANS

If not GKVK, then where? Search for flower market venue continues

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka Government's search for suitable alternate locations to house Bengaluru's international flower market is still ongoing.

Sources from the Horticulture Department informed BM that the detailed project report for housing the flower market in Binneypet, a centrally located area in West Bengaluru, has been revised and will be submitted on December 16.

As per the DPR, the market at Binneypet will include a ramp and a two-floor complex. Simultaneously, a fund proposal for the project is expected to be submitted to the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) soon.

In a meeting held last month, it was decided that officers from the Department of Agricultural Marketing will revise the detailed project report for the flower market in Binneypet. Another parcel of land under the Horticulture Department is near Byatarayanapura, where the Department of Agricultural Marketing holds a 30-acre land parcel. However, the land is disputed, and arbitration is ongoing.

Originally, the market was proposed on five acres inside the Gandhi Krishi Vigyana Kendra (GKVK) campus. The proposal by the state government faced stiff opposition from residents and city-based environmentalists due to the felling of 942 trees on the campus, sparking protests.

Nearly 1,000 trees threatened by GKVK flower market

"The flower market should not be built inside the GKVK campus. Considering alternative locations is a step in the right direction. If decided otherwise, citizens are ready to protest against the decision of having the market on the GKVK campus," said Vijay Nishant.

Opponents argue issue involves removal of nearly 1,000 trees, including important horticultural species such as cashew, mango, coconut, pomelo, jackfruit, and forest species like mahogany and silver oak, all from 12- to 13-year-old plantation

Opponents argue that the issue is the removal of nearly 1,000 trees, including important horticultural species such as cashew, mango, coconut, pomelo, jackfruit, and forest species like mahogany and silver oak, all from a 12- to 13-year-old plantation. It also houses 422 cashew trees, aged 13 years and of multiple varieties, which serve as a resource for student education, farmer training, and ongoing research activities.

Locals also cite concerns about daily waste generated by the market and potential traffic congestion along the GKVK double road if the market is built on campus.

"It is good to know that alternate locations are still being considered, instead of zeroing in on the GKVK campus. The market should not be built in an area already facing traffic congestion," said a resident.

THE SUNDAY READ

Under lock & key

Citizens suffer as parks remain shut even during officially notified opening hours

| Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

PARK PROBLEM PART 2

Bengaluru's network of neighbourhood parks — long regarded as essential public spaces for exercise, rest and community interaction— is increasingly drawing complaints from residents, who say many parks remain shut even during their officially notified opening hours.

Recently a citizen shared their experience on their Reddit account: "... Visited two parks in Koramangala yesterday, one at 21.25 and another at 21.40, only to find the gates closed at both the parks. I read some online articles that said BBMP had urged citizens to report cases where park timings were not being adhered to. I also sent them a picture of the park gate on WhatsApp. Called on 1533 to register a complaint, they gave some park management officer's number and asked me to report the complaint to the officer, received the same reply on WhatsApp. The officer's number is not on WhatsApp and his phone has been switched off since last night. The post got traction as many Bengalureans resonated with the matter.

"Similar issue at a park in RR Nagar, it is closed during the day as well. The caretaker lady of the park closes the park at 11 am and opens again only in the afternoon 3-4 pm. This is the case even if we are walking inside the park -- she will force you to leave. Have had numerous conversations, but she just pushes you to leave. I haven't checked when she closes at night. Looks like the rules are not followed. I haven't yet tried lodging a complaint, but will definitely try that approach," replied another citizen on the post. "Same, they turn down the lights in the park near BBMP office in RR nagar at 8.45 pm when there are so many people walking inside. Someone can trip and fall!" recounted another.

Another user had positive feedback. They said, "Email the BBMP (now GBA) commissioner. Follow up rigorously. I struggled with it but eventually they'll have to follow the rules. I made them keep some of the parks open in Indiranagar. Don't give up!"

What the rules state

As per a Karnataka government order issued in June 2024, BBMP-managed parks are required to remain accessible from 5 am to 10 pm every day. These extended hours greatly expand public access compared to earlier schedules, though Cubbon Park and Lalbagh are exempt from this rule. Despite the mandate, some parks continue to restrict entry or fail to follow the new timings. To address this, authorities have urged citizens to send photo evidence of such violations through its helpline, WhatsApp number, or email so that they can take corrective action. However, residents complain that action is rare.

BangaloreMirror
Researchers study accessibility to public parks and find that 29% of rds lack walkable access to neighbourhood parks; low-income areas i west and southern periphery face most severe dearth of green space
ED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH
(Even say some existing parks are in sad shape due to poor maintenance

In part 1 of our Park Problem series, BM had written about how accessibility to neighbourhood parks is patchy is some areas

Right to good health

Urban planners argue that the problem is more than just an inconvenience—it has broader implications for public health and quality of life. "In a city battling air pollution, congestion and rising stress levels, parks are essential public infrastructure, not optional amenities," said an urban design expert. "When they remain inaccessible during scheduled hours, it directly disrupts citizens' ability to engage in regular physical and mental well-being activities," she explained. She further noted that Bengaluru's green areas are already under pressure due to rapid construction and shrinking open land. Closing parks during daylight hours, she said, runs counter to global urban policy trends that emphasise maximising public access.

"Cities across the world are expanding park hours and making them safer and more inclusive. If we want healthier, more resilient neighbourhoods, open green spaces must remain truly open," she added.

Vinay Srinivasa, an advocate, who has been vocal about the issue, has long highlighted that neighbourhood

As per a govt order issued in June 2024, BBMP-managed parks are required to remain accessible from 5 am to 10 pm every day

parks in Bengaluru operate under a series of restrictive rules that make them far less accessible than they should be. According to him, these public spaces are often closed during long stretches of the day — particularly in the afternoons and at night — and are governed by regulations that effectively allow only certain social groups to use them freely. He noted that even basic activities such as eating inside the park are prohibited, and that such restrictions collectively form an almost endless list of limitations on how people can engage with what are meant to be open public commons.

Vinay explained that these rules are implemented and enforced without much resistance because government agencies tend to prioritise the preferences of residents living around the parks. These residents, who often belong to more influential or affluent groups, have greater sway over local authorities. In contrast, working-class people, who might rely on parks as accessible and affordable public spaces, often lack the institutional power or confidence to raise complaints or challenge exclusionary practices. As a result, their needs go unaddressed.

He emphasised that this pattern reveals a deeper issue: the State, which should ideally function as a custodian of shared public resources, is instead behaving as if it "owns" these spaces and can decide who gets access and under what conditions. Rather than enabling broader and more equitable use of parks, Vinay argued that government bodies are actively narrowing access through restrictive rules and selective enforcement, undermining the principle that parks are meant to serve the entire public.

"In a city battling air pollution, congestion and rising stress levels, parks are essential public infrastructure, not optional amenities. When they remain inaccessible during scheduled hours, it directly disrupts citizens' ability to engage in regular physical and mental well-being activities

—Urban design expert

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/bangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

BACKWATER RAPTOR MOMENT

Our reader shares a striking image of a young Brahminy Kite preening its feathers along the tranquil Alleppey backwaters. Closely tied to water bodies, the raptor thrives near the sea, where fish and other aquatic life form its primary hunting ground—offering a glimpse into the seamless bond between avian life and coastal ecosystems.

The picture was clicked by BM reader **N J Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Weekend chaos: Mysuru–Bengaluru expressway stuck in NICE junction gridlock

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Congestion intensifies at NICE exit as vehicles from Electronic City, Bannerghatta and PES College Road funnel into Mysuru Road

The Mysore-Bangalore Expressway promises a swift two-hour journey between the cultural city and the state capital. Yet, drivers exiting at NICE Junction to enter Bangalore city find themselves stuck for at least 90 minutes in traffic snarls. What was meant to ease connectivity and reduce congestion on the old highway has turned into a frustrating ordeal for weekend travellers.

Motorists say the problem begins after paying tolls at two points along the expressway, only to crawl as soon as they enter city limits. Many complain that despite the smooth high-speed stretch, the final leg inside Bengaluru negates all time saved. "Even after speeding on the expressway, we crawl through traffic jams within Bangalore. Hundreds of rupees paid in tolls, yet we spend equal time stuck on the roads—it's maddening," said a commuter who travels frequently on weekends.

Congestion intensifies on Saturdays and Sundays, especially near the Vishweshwar Nath Maha Samsthana Math junction. While outbound traffic from Bengaluru towards Mysuru slows through the day, the return flow becomes overwhelming from around 3 pm on Sundays. Vehicles inch forward for long stretches, forcing drivers to constantly use clutches and brakes, adding to fatigue and frustration after long journeys.

Traffic pressure increases further as vehicles from Electronic City, Bannerghatta, PES College Road and surrounding areas merge at NICE Junction to access Mysuru Road. Long queues routinely spill back onto connecting roads, leaving motorists stranded for several minutes before clearing the junction. Commuters argue that paying tolls without assured movement defeats the expressway's purpose and demands urgent corrective action.

Traffic experts and local representatives have suggested widening the service road near Kadamba Hotel, repairing damaged stretches, installing a proper divider at the NICE exit and building bus shelters to organise pedestrian movement. Commuters also point out that space earmarked for a 15-foot walkway could help ease congestion for devotees visiting nearby religious institutions. Commuters say coordinated action alone can restore confidence in the expressway.

DID YOU KNOW?

One of the year's most spectacular celestial events is set to light up the night sky as the Geminid meteor shower reaches its peak this weekend. Active through mid-December, the Geminids are known for their bright, often yellow-tinged meteors and are visible worldwide, with the best views from the Northern Hemisphere. Under clear, dark skies, skywatchers may spot up to 120 meteors per hour during the peak period from Saturday night into the early hours of Sunday, according to NASA. Meteor showers occur when Earth passes through streams of space debris, causing fast-moving particles to burn up in the atmosphere and create brief, fiery streaks of light. This year offers a favourable viewing window before moonlight becomes brighter after midnight. Geminids uniquely originaye from asterod 3200 Phaethon. **–AP**

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR
9591233247
Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH BANGALORE MIRROR

Write to us at mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

MEA fact-check unit debunks fake letter attributed to Jaishankar on Rafale deal

The Claim: A viral letter allegedly written by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to the French Embassy claims confidential information on Rafale Marine aircraft delivery schedules was leaked, causing diplomatic and operational complications, suggesting the Rafale controversy remains unresolved and sensitive.

Fact: The Ministry of External Affairs' fact-check unit has categorically stated the letter is entirely fake and fabricated. No such communication was sent by S Jaishankar. The MEA has urged the public to remain alert against misinformation and disinformation campaigns.

The Ministry of External Affairs' fact-check unit has dismissed as fake a viral letter purportedly written by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to the French Embassy regarding the Rafale deal. The unit clarified that the alleged communication claiming that information on Rafale deliveries had been leaked is entirely fabricated.

In a post on X on Thursday, the MEA fact-check unit released an image showing that the "fake" letter was circulated by an X account named Discourse Lab, which alleged that "Jaishankar's letter to France confirms one thing: the Rafale controversy is far from over. New Delhi is struggling to contain the fallout of leaked communications."

The MEA dismissed the circulating letter as "fake" and urged people to remain vigilant against disinformation.

"The letter being referred to in this post is fake. Always stay alert against disinformation," the MEA stated in its post on X.

The fake letter, falsely attributed to Jaishankar, claimed that details of the Rafale naval aircraft delivery schedule had been leaked and that the disclosure had caused unexpected complications.

The document, dated November 26, 2025, bore a fabricated signature of the External Affairs Minister and was addressed to French Ambassador Thierry Mathou.

"It has come to our attention that certain communications concerning the Rafale naval aircraft timeline have recently emerged in the public domain. While we fully understand the complexities of such arrangements and the detailed processes involved, the unintended disclosure has created some unforeseen challenges for us, given the nature of our extensive collaboration," the fake letter stated.

"As partners with a long-standing and valued relationship, we are confident that the professionalism and discretion that have characterised our interactions will continue to guide our future communications. We remain committed to deepening our cooperation and look forward to further strengthening the trust and understanding between our nations," it further claimed.

The fake letter comes months after the Ministry of Defence signed a 63,000 crore defence deal with France for the acquisition of 26 Rafale Marine combat aircraft.

The deal was inked in April at the Defence Ministry headquarters at South Block in the national capital, the Indian Navy said. **–ANI**

Glanders detection forces sudden shutdown of winter racing at BTC

Single positive case halts racing, placing hundreds of horses under prolonged surveillance nationwide

INFOCUS HORSE RACING

A prolonged shutdown threatens livelihoods across the turf ecosystem, with staff, trainers and owners awaiting clearance after exhaustive veterinary surveillance

The winter races at the Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) have come to a sudden halt following a solitary horse testing positive for Glanders, the dreaded zoonotic contagious disease.

The development has brought racing at the premier centre to a standstill, with the club now required to strictly follow state government protocols to assess and contain the spread of the disease. The BTC houses around 650–700 thoroughbred horses, all of which will now come under mandatory surveillance. The recommended three-test cycle prescribed by the National Research Centre for Equines (NRCE), Hisar — the only laboratory in South Asia authorised to investigate glanders — will be initiated once the state government machinery formally takes charge on Tuesday. Racing is unlikely to resume for at least three months, subject to all horses testing negative and the disease being officially de-notified by NRCE.

NRCE confirmed on Friday evening that Jerome (Arod out of Paramour), a juvenile trained by Inayathullah, tested positive for glanders. The laboratory informed the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services Department, Hebbal, Bengaluru, directing that immediate action be taken under the provisions of the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009, which is in force in Karnataka.

BTC chairman Shiv Shankar said the State Animal Husbandry Department would assume full control of the premises and monitor all operations from Tuesday. This will include strict regulation of equine movement and the implementation of enhanced zoo-sanitary measures to prevent the spread of the notifiable disease.

Meanwhile, the Mysore Race Club (MRC), which had also sent four suspected samples to NRCE, received partial relief after three horses tested negative. However, NRCE has sought a repeat sample from One To Cherish, a two-year-old juvenile, for confirmation. MRC chairman G. Venkatesh said the racing community there remains anxious. "It is a 50–50 chance. If the repeat sample comes back negative, we hope to resume racing next week," he said.

Once government authorities take over at BTC, the mandatory three-test cycle will begin, with a 21-day gap between each round of testing. If all horses test negative after the third cycle, NRCE will de-notify the disease and clear the centre to resume racing. However, even a single positive result in the final test would require the entire three-cycle process to be repeated, potentially extending the shutdown to nearly five months.

Chief Veterinary Officer and Kunigal Stud Farm manager Dinesh expressed deep concern over the situation, calling for a thorough investigation into the source of the infection. "It is essential to identify how this started and seal all gaps to ensure such an outbreak never recurs," he said, adding that the timing could not have been worse, with the sport already under strain due to the 40 per cent GST burden.

BTC steward Mahesh Medappa said the shutdown would severely impact owners, trainers and stable staff. He confirmed that a committee meeting is scheduled for Saturday evening to review the situation and chart the way forward. "The club, along with the Karnataka Racehorse Owners Association and the Karnataka Trainers Association, will fully cooperate with government-appointed veterinarians to tide over this crisis," he said.

—Ikram Khan

SOCIALTATTLE

That went viral
A social media user shared striking pictures of Koramangala–Indiranagar Ring Road, highlighting its current condition. The post has gained widespread attention, drawing thousands of views.

Atul Pinheiro
@atulpinheiro
X.com
The Koramangala–Indiranagar ring road has so many pretty sides to it
You just have to overlook the garbage a little bit
9:52 AM · 12/12/25 · 16K Views

I CHANGE Hemmigepura
@hemmigepura
X.com
BHEL layout Hemmigepura ward seweage water overflowing @bwssbchairman only do temporary fix by jetting. Further extension of line pending for years with no progress @osd_cmkarnataka kindly help residents unable to bear the bad smell serious health hazard @GBA_office

User @hemmigepura
reports overflowing sewage in BHEL Layout, Hemmigepura Ward. Temporary jetting fixes by BWSSB aren't enough residents face foul smell and serious health hazards.

What's Tweeting
A social media user highlighted that GBA resurfaced the road behind Raheja Residency in Koramangala but left the section where cars are parked unfinished. The post also pointed out several abandoned vehicles along the stretch, raising concerns over poor enforcement and negligence, and sparking discussions among social media users about road maintenance and civic accountability.

INBRIEF

Teacher assaulted, mob faces action in Haveri

Police in Karnataka's Haveri district have registered an FIR against 22 people for allegedly assaulting a government school teacher, garlanding him with chappals and parading him publicly over accusations of sexual harassment. The case was registered based on a complaint filed by the teacher, who claimed he was beaten, humiliated in public and threatened by a group of locals in Savanur town.

Videos of the incident circulated widely on social media, prompting concern and strong reactions across the state. Police said the accused were identified using the viral footage, and charges include causing public humiliation and issuing life threats. The Savanur police have taken up further investigation. Officials clarified that no formal complaint has yet been received from any student or parent directly accusing the teacher of sexual abuse. Investigators are also examining whether the incident was influenced by internal disputes within the school.

Earlier, on December 10, a separate FIR had been registered against the teacher based on a complaint by the school headmaster alleging sexual harassment of students. That case remains under investigation.

Community representatives claimed public anger followed alleged admissions by the teacher, but police said these claims are unverified. Authorities stressed that both cases will be probed independently and strictly as per law. **—IANS**

KSCA gets nod, Kohli returns home

Star India batter Virat Kohli is set to return to domestic 50-over cricket in the Vijay Hazare Trophy (VHT), with his matches likely to be staged at Bengaluru's M Chinnaswamy Stadium, following conditional clearance from the Karnataka government.

The venue had been barred from hosting top-tier matches after the tragic stampede during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL victory celebrations in June, which claimed 11 lives. Based on the Justice John Michael D'Cunha Commission's report, the government had declared the stadium unfit for major events, forcing the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) to move tournaments such as the Maharaja Trophy to Mysuru and exclude Chinnaswamy from the ICC Women's World Cup schedule.

After several rounds of discussions between KSCA officials and the state leadership in Belagavi, including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, the stadium has now been permitted to resume cricket under strict conditions. KSCA plans to open only select stands and cap attendance at around 2,000–3,000 spectators during the VHT. The association has assured phased implementation of safety and crowd-control measures recommended by the commission, with the VHT serving as a test run ahead of a possible IPL return. Officials say continued compliance will determine future approvals, including expanded crowds and the venue's reinstatement for high-profile international fixtures matches, and long-term restoration of Chinnaswamy's status as Bengaluru's cricket venue. **—ANI**

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES
PRESENTS
BANYAN TREE'S
Ruhaniyat
SEEKING THE DIVINE
25 YEAR
Saturday, 24th Jan 2026 | 6:15 pm
A GLIMPSE OF BAUL WORLDVIEW - Uttam Das Baul
SPANISH MYSTICAL COMPOSITIONS - Eva Serrano
SO SAID THE MYSTICS OF GUJARAT - Hemant Chauhan & Group
AFRICAN KORA STRINGS & MYSTIC SONGS - Dawda Jobarteh (Gambia)
KABIR CHAURA - Mir Mukhtiyar Ali & Group
QAWWALI - Chand Nizami & Group
Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Bengaluru
Conceived & Produced by
Banyan Tree
We bring performances aLIVE
Tickets on bookmyshow.com
or Scan QR Code
For premier seats & details:
9152282553 / 9323930139

real estate

ESTATE & PROPERTIES

COORG 5 ACRES COFFEE ESTATE FOR SALE

IDEAL FOR RESORTS / Holiday Home/Farmhouse 400 Meters From Highway with Tar Road. JV Option Available. Ph: 99808 77311

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

AIRPORT ROAD

NEW READY to move 3BHK 2600 sft OC CC Flats sale in Old Airport Road Near Manipal Hospital Call: 9741868566 Agents Excuse

BSNL POSTAL HOUSING SOCIETY
Residential and Commercial Sites near Bengaluru International Airport
1400/- per sqft

BANG ON 8 LANE RING ROAD, NEXT TO FOXCONN AND IT CORRIDOR. CONTACT : 90715 34000

LAND Required for Joint Development/Revenue Sharing Basis We seek 5–10 Acres of land for exclusive plotted development projects in & around Bengaluru. Property Owners & Channel Partners are welcome to connect with us. Call: 9845099919

BANASHANKARI

MARS PLANET 2, 2.5 & 3 BHK Flats On Hills of BSK 3rd stage, Opp. to Tata Promont,8792155802 9972399993 & 9880625336

BDA-SITES WANTED @ BSK 6th Stage All Block Vishweshwaraiah Layout Kempegowda Layout 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 contact: 98455 55666

BANASHANKARI 6th Stage, Anjanapura 20x30, 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 Sites Buying/ Selling, Genuine Buyers/ Sellers Call: 9845675290, 9845446826.

BANGALORE - CENTRAL (GPO)

TO let 786 sq feet commercial space with one car park on lalbaugh double road , salarpuria money point , contact 9845073096

BANNERGHATTA ROAD

VIJAYA Bank Layout 40x60 S/E Corner 3 Floor Building 30x45 East, 40x60 West BTM 4th Stage 30x40 North & Rental Building 9538903671/ 9535843671

CLASSIC Orchards Behind Meenakshi Tmpl 45x60, 60X90, Sites, Also 4, 5 BHK houses for sale Gated community. All ame nities. 98453-37274 / 99801-55015

INDUSTRIAL SHED FOR SALE BANNERGHATTA TO JIGANI MAIN ROAD, 65X200 PRICE 8500/- PER SQFT 75 HP POWER. CALL: 9901931555

BASAVANAGUDI

NAGENDRA BLOCK, Near PES College. 2BHK Flat,2nd Flr, 975 Sqft, E-Katha, Car Park Rs. 68 L SHIVAS REALTY 9900123798/ 9341248044

NEW READY to move 3BHK 3250 sft OC Certificate Flats sale in Basavanagudi Nr Krishna rao Park 9141464194/ 97418 68566 Agents Excuse

BIDADI

INDIVIDUAL E-Khatha sites for sale at Bidadi. 100 mtr from Hiway, ready for registration and construction. Call Ph: 9606342643.

DEVANAHALLI

₹.2999/sqft BIAAPA SITES FOR SALE DEVANAHALLI
PROPERTY WORLD BUILDERS & DEVELOPERS
9731308328 / 7204431451

DEVANAHALLI Approved Sites for sale near International Airport @ Rs.2999/- 2400, 4000sqft, 9731308328 / 7204431451

ELECTRONIC CITY

KSSIDC Industrial Layout, Electronic City Huskur Rd Building BUA 6150 sft G+1 Floor, Corner Land 6000 sft Rs 5.85 Cr. 9902925519

Bennett & Coleman
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

SHANDERS Dwellling, Shanti Pura Phase II, Electronic City, 4th Flr, 1250 Sft UDS 463 Sq.ft. East Facing, 3 BHK, 85 Lacs, CT: 7010553419

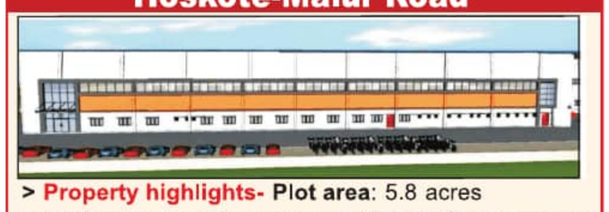
Electronic City Phase-1 BDA-RERA Approved Gated Community PLOTS FOR SALE

MODERN LIFESTYLE Amenities, Fully Equipped Clubhouse, Landscaped Parks and Premium Infrastructure. 7090770033

HEBBAL

SPACIOUS 5000 Sqft 4 BHK furnished Villa with exclusive elevator avail able for rent in Godrej-17, Hebbal, 3 Car park & Serv ant Room Ph: 9880223669.

NEW GRADE-A INDUSTRIAL FACILITY UP FOR LEASE
Hoskote-Malur Road



> **Property highlights- Plot area**: 5.8 acres
> **Built-up area:** 1 lac sq.ft > **BMRDA Plan Sanction**
> **Configuration:** Ground floor + mezzanine **OC Ready**
Handover in one month: Strategically located in Hoskote Malur road, near Satellite Town Ring Road. The facility offers abundant power and is ideal for manufacturing, R&D, warehousing and retail.
Contact: 8105493926

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Fully furnished
7500 sqft + 7500 sqft + 4500 sqft
Near Electronic City
30 Meters Singasandra Metro Station.
Contact : 9902401668, 9845011628

HEBBAL Embassy lake terrace, 5113 sqft, 4.5 BHK Rs.3.25 L/ month. Devanahalli Golfshire, 12013 sft plot, Rs.4.5L/ Month Call: 8296748882

SALE!! Fully furnished 3BHK 1580 sqft @ Thanisandra, East facing Ground Floor 1 car park, All amenities. Rs.1.20cr (Nego) Citilines 9741417120 /6360189579

HENNUR

WAREHOUSE/FACTORY Shed for Rent @Kothnur Hennur Bande with 280HP Power 14kSqft 3L/M Ct: Kamal Jain : 9844072344/ 9844830500

HRBR LAYOUT

Wanted BDA, A Katha & B Katha 30x40, 40x60, 50x80 & Lands For Joint Ventures & Out Right Settlement For immediate Regn.

ON ANY BBMP Limits/ Arkavty lyt/HRBR/OMBR Kasturi Ngr/Sahakar Ngr / Indira Ngr/ HSR Layout: Ph: 8197000121 / 9738111222

INDIRA NAGAR

SALE 30x45 East facing BDA property G+4floors Rent fetching building, lift/borewell Located close to Metro station Rs.6.5cr. Ph: 9845208012

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - AROUND

AIRPORT ROAD - VIDYA-NAGAR TELECOM LAYOUT (Woods Enclave): 30x50 ft East-facing prime residential plot for sale. Behind Venka-teshwara Engineering Col-lege, 400 m from NH-7, near Metro Station, 10 mins to Air-port. Brokers excuse. Call: 9448533327 / 9060442140

JAYANAGAR

JAYANAGAR 4th T Block 3 Unit House 25 Feet Road Near By 11th Main Road 22x60 North Facing A Katha, 3,80,00000/- Contact: 9739995042

LUXURY Newly Built 3BHK Apartment for Sale in Jayanagar near South End Circle, 2200 to 2500 Sqft Each Flat. Ct: 9945265049/ 9738302049.

JIGANI-ANEKAL

SALE 1500 Sft EF Plot Gated Community @ JR Urbania Prime Anekal Chandapura Rd, KHB Suryangr, Surya Phase 2, B'lore: 9902090315 / 9902414003

JP NAGAR

FOR SALE : New Residential Building in JP Ngr 8th Phase. EF, 4Flrs with 3600 sqft built up Area, BBMP 'A' Khatha, GF-1BHK, FF-2BHK & SF-3BHK Luxury Duplex House with Lift. Price - Rs. 2.65 Cr Nego. Call : 8105766359.

LIFT, BOREWELL, Luxurious Interior. (Adj. To Total Environment Learning To Fly Project) 9742650457, 9980277668

GALLERIA

Nirmala Travels® Presents
Ph No. 0824 2497051/54, 9663518877, 9663528877, 9686687771/2/3/4
visit us @ www.nirmalatravels.com

KASHMIR WITH TULIP GARDEN 6 DAYS
MARCH: 24, 26, 29, 31 APR: 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15

CHAR DHAM YATRA 19 DAYS
APR: 25 MAY: 1, 6, 9, 12, 16, 24, 27, 31

KASHI/BADRINATH KEDARNATH* 21/14* DAYS
APR: 26 MAY: 1, 3*, 8*, 17, 24* JUNE: 1, 8*, 15, 22*, 24

SIMLA KULLU MANALI/MUSSOORIE NAINITAL* 15/14* DAYS
FEB: 4*, 15*, MAR: 1*, 4, 13*, 18, APR: 1, 2*, 14*, 15

ASSAM MEGHALAYA/ARUNACHAL* 13/19* DAYS
JAN: 16, 23 FEB: 13, 20, 27* MAR: 6*, 13*, 20*, 27*

ADMISSION NOTICE

THE FRANK ANTHONY JUNIOR SCHOOL
26, Wellington Street, Richmond Town, Bangalore - 560 025.
(Affiliated to the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations - ICSE, New Delhi)

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR CLASSES PRE-NURSERY TO CLASS X FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27

We are pleased to inform the public that The Frank Anthony Junior School, Bangalore is affiliated to the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (ICSE), New Delhi.

Classes : Pre-Nursery to Class X

Streams Offered in Classes IX & X :

❋ SCIENCE STREAM
Subjects Offered :
English Language, English Literature, History & Civics, Geography, Kannada, Hindi, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Applications / Commercial Applications / Robotics & Artificial Intelligence.

❋ COMMERCE STREAM
Subjects Offered :
English Language, English Literature, History & Civics, Geography, Kannada, Hindi, Mathematics, Commercial Applications, Economics.

We provide a balanced blend of academics and extracurricular opportunities to nurture every child's all-round development.

Extracurricular Activities Include :
Football, Hockey, Indoor Games, Co-Curricular Clubs, Cultural & Creative Activities.

For Admission and Enquiry :
Contact the School Office at
✆ 080-2221 2386, ✉fajsadmission@gmail.com

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

JP NAGAR 3rd PHASE
PREMIUM PLOT FOR SALE
60 X 90 – 5400 SQFT
CONTACT: 7899930039

5400 SQFT SOUTH FACING PLOT FOR SALE IN PRIME LOCATION . CONTACT - KP REALTY – 7899930039 Brokers Excuse

KANAKAPURA ROAD

30X50 CORNER Brand New 3 BHK Duplex Villa Gated Community @ Nanda Prakruthi E katha Off Kanakapura Road Near Nice Road Rs.1.89cr Negotiable Call: 9901011122, 9845064043

KORAMANGALA

KORAMANGALA NEAR JNC
PLUG & PLAY OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
Available: 10,000 Sft.
Independent Commercial Building with 180+ Seating Capacity.

FULLY Furnished with: Workstations and Cabins, A/c Lift, Carpeting, Power Backup,Cafeteria,Basement Parking.Call: 9845057375

RENT-WEARHOUSE Ground Floor 3000 Sqft, 2 Side Entry 40ft Rd Both Sides 30kv Power 15ft High Rent 1.4L, Adv 5 L: Raj Realtors: 6364174837

KUMARA PARK

NEHRUNAGAR 1st Cross Sheshadripuram 2592 sqft 3BHK Prime location/Fully Furnished Flat Available for Sale Only for Vegetarian Contact: 9632876461.

MARUTHI SEVA NAGAR

FLAT For Sale: 2BHK, No.F-G, Mutual Apartments, Jeevanahalli Main Road, ITC Colony, Chinnappa Lane, Bengaluru-05. Call: 9844025478/ 8867703245

MYSORE ROAD

BMRDA Individual A Katha sites for sale at Dodda Aaladamara with Bank loan contact: 90355 68954

NAGARBHAVI

3BHK FLAT for sale Near Nagarabhavi BDA Complex Price – 93 lakh + GST Contact: 9108984499, 99809 41666

VISHWA VENKATESHWARA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
Sy 72, Tirumala Garden, Kodipalya, Kengeri, Bangalore – 560060
Affiliated to CBSE, New Delhi, Affiliation No. 830685

VVIS a reputed institution committed to academic excellence and holistic development, invites applications from qualified and dedicated candidates for the following positions:

- **Vice-Principal**
- **Co-ordinators** – Pre Primary, Primary and Secondary
- **Teaching Staff** – Pre Primary Teachers and Primary Teachers (All Subjects)
- **High School Teachers** – English, Kannada, Hindi, Sanskrit, Mathematics, Social Science, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science Physical Education Instructor, Art & Craft Teacher, Music and Dance Teacher

Trained Graduates or Post Graduates would be given preference

Mail your resume to:
vvinternationalschool@gmail.com
tirumalabalaji75@gmail.com
Contact: 9141300990 / 9448516410 / 9141300991

2 BHK FLAT for SALE
Rs. 65 Lac
Inclusive of All Amenities
1160 sqft
UDS 284 sqft. W/Face
OWNER GOING ABROAD

WITH 1 Car Park, all facilities and Lift, 3rd Floor NGF Layout (behind Bangalore University). Nagarbhavi. 9880236074

SITE-FOR-SALE BDA Khata E/F 30x50 "D" Group 16000/sqft N/F 30X45, 12500/sqft,Road Hit. @ Annapoorneshwari Nagar. Nagarbhavi. Call : 95131 55255.

LUXURIOUS High End 3BHK Flat (2450Sft) All Teak & Bath Fittings, E/F E-Katha Nr Deepa Complex Nagarbhavi 1.36Cr Call: 9448462661/ 9000296586

NAGAWARA

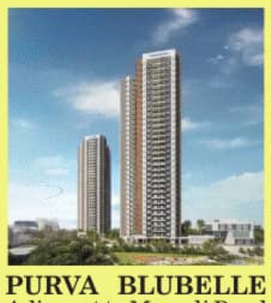
MANYATHA RESIDENCY NAGWARA
PREMIUM PLOT 50 X 80 FOR SALE
KP Reality 7899930039

@ RS.22K/SQFT . West Facing Plot Available for Sale. Behind MANYATA TECH PARK. CONTACT KP REALTY – 7899930039

PADMANABHA NAGAR

SALE Commercial 40x60 BBMP 'A' Katha Site at Padmanabhanagar, E/F, Price 28K Nego. Brokers Excuse. Genuine Buyers Ct: 91106 64819

RAJAJI NAGAR



PURVA BLUBELLE Adjacent to Magadi Road Metro station RAJAJINAGAR 3 BHK & Exclusive 5 BHK Flats + Servant Room with all luxurious Amenities, Only few units left for Sale Call Owner : 9844027560.

RAMAMURTHY NAGAR

SITE FOR SALE
1380 SFT
NORTH FACING
GOOD LOCALITY

NRI-LAYOUT 30X46 Sft With Borewell Price is 12500/-Slightly Negotiable, For Details Contact : 99721 30188 / 92434 38537

HOUSE FOR SALE
DC Conversion BBMP 'E' Khata
Price 1.59Cr
Near Varanasi Road Kanaka Nagar Circle

G+2 30*40 North Facing 5 BHK Modular Kitchen with Chimney 2 Covered Car Parking, Borewell 98455 10178 , 7619156999

SADASHIVA NAGAR

BUYING SELLING RENTING PROPERTIES

THINK OF us For Transparency Trust & Excellent Services Emerald Realty 9845263277

UTTARAHALLI

4BHK New Flats Sale Ready to Move, A Khatha, E-swathu, Kaveri, car-park, Lift, Vaasthu, Maruthi Layout. Rs.1.10cr. Call: 9945224058, 6363181276.

VIDYARANYAPURA

A Katha SITES For Sale
ADITYANAGAR
Only Limited Sites Available

A KATHA Sites for Sale 30x40 & above attached to Aditya Nagar Sai Layout Vidyaranyapura Contact: 99027 98164/ 79754 97482

LAND FOR SALE
Suitable for Residential / Godown / School / Apartments / Hospital / Diagnostic Centre at
Sir M Vishweshwaraiah Layout - Ullalu, Bengaluru-560110
18,513 Sqft. South Facing
at Ullalu Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, with clear title deeds for sale.
Interested parties for more details please contact :
99019 85699

VIJAYA NAGAR

2BHK PREMIUM Flat for Sale in Vijayanagar with all amenities Close to purple metro line Rs 1.2Cr Contact: 6364003399

SITE FOR SALE
60x90
RPC Layout
VIJAYNAGAR

SALE: 60X90 West Facing WOC Road RPC Layout Only Genuine Buyers Contact: 6363250343/ 9845038343

VISVESWARAIAH LAYOUT

AVAILABLE/WANTED BDA Sites in Vishweshwaraiah Layout 50x80, 40x60, 30x40 20x30 Genuine Buyers And Sellers. Contact: 9743381719

YELAHANKA

APARTMENTS FOR SALE 2BHK & 3BHK
YALAHANKA
ON AIRPORT HIGHWAY
PROPERTY WORLD BUILDERS & DEVELOPERS
9731308328 / 9740589739

YELAHANKA Apartments for sale Rs.8900/sqft on Airport Highway 2BHK & 3BHK 9731308328 / 9740589739

Bennett & Coleman THE TIMES OF INDIA

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

OUTSIDE BANGALORE

MYSORE

"MUDA" Approved Sites, Near Vijayanagar 4th Stage Mysore, Fully developed layout. Sites available in all Sizes. Ready for Registration. Bank loan available. Contact: 9036081746 / 9945003730.

SITE FOR SALE
30x40 s/f,
TVS company
Thaluru main road
(new pheriperal ring road),
Mysore.
Price: Rs. 1,800/sq.ft
Very good for investment.
Mob: 8971261355 / 9008570086.

TUMKUR

PRIME industrial building for rent @ Vasanthanarasapura Indl. Area, Tumkur. 18,510 sq. ft PEB structure, 20ft height, Mezzanine floor provision, VDF flooring, Ridge ventilators & sufficient water. 8660938176

FOR SALE

BANGALORE

BSK6TH stage, 11th block, Good Location, West Facing, 60X40 , First Allottee, Contact 9845687913, Brokerage Applicable

MYSORE

SALE 40x60 Villa Plot in high end Premier Gated Community Calm Serene All round garden on T.Narasipur Road Mysore Price. 92Lacs, Nego: 7026500097

FARM HOUSES

HILLTOP FARM WITH AN UNINTERRUPTED VIEW OF VALLEYS AND MOUNTAINS,FOR SALE IN WAYANAD.CONT 7338630606

BALI.. BUY 20 cents (8720sft) Land in our Bali Themed Farm land on 4000' Hilltop nr Hosur Amidst Forest Greenery @ 600/ sft Pls Call: 91760 54384 & Visit.

PLOTS FOR SALE

PREMIUM luxury plot East facing at Embassy spring 2500 sq ft for Sale Rs.11000 Plus other applicable charges (broker Excuse) Call/wts up 7022000022

PENUKONDA Near KIA Car Factory Madakasira Highway 50X100 (2-SITES) Resi Converted, Gated Community, 499/- Per Sqft Call: 8310681025

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

COMMERCIAL PREMISES

COMMERCIAL Office Space in a brand new building ready for registration (OC received). Top floor with Panoramic views, all amenities and high class construction. Two adjoining units on 7th floor of (1280 sqft & 1352 sqft) 2632 sqft. Facing - East & West Facing. Sale Price : Rs. 25000/- psf Negotiable. Contact: 9538818301

VIDYAPEETHA Circle - Semi Commercial G+2 Building for sale, 2200 SQ Ft with 1.50L monthly Rent. Call: 9686120808 , 9663052922

FARMS

FARM Land for Sale: 44,000 sq ft at Shoolagiri at Rs.350/sq ft. Can be split into two plots. Direct buyers, contact 80955 06332.

INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

SALE Yeswanthpur, BDA Land 23000 Sqt East facing & 1Acre with Ind. shed, North facing. Near Metro Station Srinivas 9342842978. 9880743366

LEASE & RENT

RENT J.P.Nagar 6th Phase, Near Sindhoor Kalyan Mantap Ground: Shop/Godown (5HP Power) First 2BHK 900Sft Each carparking in Front: 9448386979

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

LWI ELECRTRONICS - ISO Certified - Company Needs Accounts Managers with Tally Knowledge Staying In & Around RT Nagar - Contact 9901199900

ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVES

JOBS For Women in MNC, Age above 21+ years, Any degree, Fixesd salary 15,000 to 50,000. Incentives, Bonus, PF, +ESI Call 7899408159

MANAGERS

REPUTED Catering Company at Bengaluru looking for Catering Operations & Marketing Manager with good communication in English, Kannada & Hindi. Minimum 5 years experience in same field. Contact:- 9512799918, 9591810814

MEDICAL

MEDICAL

SVM HOSPITALS
NABH READY 120 BEDDED HOSPITAL IN MARATHALLI
is Hiring for the Following Departments:

1. GENERAL MEDICINE
2. ORTHOPAEDICS
3. ANAESTHESIA
4. INTENSIVE CARE UNIT
5. MEDICAL GASTROENTEROLOGIST
6. SURGICAL GASTROENTEROLOGIST
7. OBG
8. SURGICAL ONCOLOGY
9. GENERAL & LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY
10. PAEDIATRICS
11. MEDICAL ONCOLOGY

REQUIRED QUALIFICATION:
MS / MD / DM / DNB, 2-5 YRS Experience in the relevant field.

RESUME INVITED FOR MARKETING & ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS AS WELL

Mail your resume:
hr@svmhospitals.com
Call or Whatsapp:
Mr. Rajat - 093531 24847

www.svmhospitals.com

OTHER VACANCIES

GENERAL

WANTED
Sr. GM F&A / VP/ Finance Head for a reputed Nutrients Manufacturing & Service Providing Group of Companies.
Bachelor's in Commerce / Finance / Accounting; MBA / M.Com. CA / CPA Preferred. 10 - 15 years experience in various finance functions and proven leadership.
Location: Bangalore
Position: Immediate
Salary: As per Industry Standards.
Reporting to MD/CMD.
E-mail: ibcsconsulting@gmail.com
Call/Whatsapp: 8056419123

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

MULTIPLE Vacancies! Construction & Interior Company, Bangalore. Senior Architects & Interior Designers, Civil Site Engineers, Project Managers, Sales Executives & Lawyers. Call or W/a 8123364229

SERVICES

CHEFS

CONSULTANT– South Indian Food Vacancy- South Indian Chef Opening in Dehradun, Uttarakhand for experienced chef. Should know authentic South Indian dish preparation– Dosa, Idli, Rasam etc. Accommodation shall be provided. Contact: vanchetna@rediffmail.com , WhatsApp: 7060644961

Threatened at gunpoint, complaint unheard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

documents within three days of receiving the notice," said Munirathnamma.

She said that her complaint was against Krishnamurthy, a chit fund agent. "We supply chicken to chicken stalls. I joined a chit of Rs 1.30 crore managed by Krishnamurthy. He not only failed to pay the bid amount but also took away our property documents," she said.

Marathahalli Police has directed Munirathnamma to submit the documents or CCTV footage pertaining to the complaint against Krishnamurthy.

Vijay Dennis told BM that this case raises several questions in the interest of justice and public safety. "Why did the Police Commissioner fail to act for four long years, despite citizens repeatedly raising concerns? Not a single step was taken until our NGO, KRTIWSS, brought the issue to the public spotlight through social media. Only after four years of delay did the authorities finally issue a notice and initiate the investigation. This shows a worrying lack of responsiveness and transparency.

The nature of the incident itself is serious. The accused allegedly threatened the victim with a gun and forcibly took important documents. Threatening anyone at gunpoint is a serious criminal offence, and when a woman is intimidated this way, it becomes even more urgent and unacceptable," he said.

'This can happen to you too': Ricky Kej alleges theft by delivery agent

Grammy Award-winning musician Ricky Kej took to Instagram to share a shocking personal update, revealing that his home was recently targeted in a robbery.

In a detailed Instagram post, Ricky Kej expressed displeasure over theft by a Zomato delivery partner, whom he claimed stole the sump cover. Kej also shared the CCTV footage of the act, capturing the individual picking up the cover and fleeing from the spot in what appears to be a two-wheeler vehicle.

"I was robbed! Dear @zomato @zomatodeliverypartner, looks like one of your delivery partners entered my home on Thursday and stole our sump cover. This was at 6 o'clock in the evening. Quite bold of them! This is probably not their first time. They came in just 15 min earlier for a recce, and then trespassed and committed the crime. You can see the CCTV footage from 2 angles," he wrote.

Kej added screenshots of the alleged robber and the vehicle's number plate.

Asking Bengaluru City Police to help him with the matter, the musician added, "Also, people, be vigilant. This can happen to you, too!"

The post went viral, quickly grabbing the attention of his followers. One wrote, "My goodness. How brazen is that? Hope you get justice, Ricky," while another added, "This is so bad. Hope the police can trace the folks who did. Very unfortunate."

While a response is still awaited from the police, the official social media handle of the food delivery giant apologised over the matter.

"Hi Ricky, this is really concerning, and we certainly don't encourage such behaviour from our delivery partners. We'll investigate this immediately so that necessary action can be taken," the response stated.

Kej asked Zomato to contact him with further information for the future probe. **ANI**

Your Connect

personal

LOST & FOUND

Document Lost

I, Mrs Mehbubjan W/o Mr Bakash Khan, R/at GF1, Bhanu-Sankar Apartments, 8th Cross Road, 1st Main Road, Abbiah Reddy Layout, Kaggadaspura, C V Raman Nagar, Bangalore - 560093, have lost original Sale deed (Mamta Raj Priyadarashini and Rekha D), BDA Khata Certificate and Khata receipt (Application No. BD006S190002499 & Property ID No. 6000032216) of Site 94, Narayan Abode, Kambipura Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Standing in the name of previous Owner Mrs. Rekha D. Police complaint given vide Lost Report No.1915838/2025 dt. 22/11/2025 and 1929 846/2025 dt 28/11/2025. The finder may please contact on 9845005298.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Gowramma Manjappa w/o Srinivasa K R/o No-I-1504,NCC Meadows Phase-2 Doddaballapura Main Road, Puttenahalli, Yelahanka B'luru-560064 have changed my name to Gowri Srinivasa M for all purposes.

I, Annie Mathan, W/o Valakukhy Mathen Mathen, R/o No. 1A, Castle Street, 1st Cross, Ashok Nagar, Near Brigade Tower, Museum Road, Bangalore - 560025, have changed my name to Annie Mathen for all future purposes.

I, Rajesha Belur Gurumurthy S/o Gurumurthy B J, R/o No.186 KHBSFS-407, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, Yelahanka New Town, B'luru 560064, changed my name to Rajesh Belur Gurumurthy, for all purposes.

I, JOSHNI, Residing at No 1-394, Udaya Nagara Mudoor Post, Kundapura, Udupi-576233, Have changed my name to JOSHNI P J, vide affidavit dated 13/12/2025 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Gopinath Jayaraman S/o Jayaraman R/o No. 2/1, 3rd Floor, Obalappa Street, Chikkamavalli, Basavanagudi, bengaluru-560004. Have Changed My Name to Gopinathan for All Purposes.

I, Mulla Arshiya S/o Mulla Rahmatullah R/o No. 3-66B, D. Hirehal, Anantapur-515872. Have Changed My Name to Gopinathan All Purposes.

I, Seema Begum W/o Imthiyaz Pasha R/o Nizam Mohalla, Near Mutton Market, Malur, Kolar Malur 563130 have changed my name as Seema Taj.

I, Smita Patil, W/o. Sumeet Satish Bengeri, residing at Poineer KRS park Royal Apartment D-wing, Flat No.206, Sy No. 54, Forest Layout, Near Pattanagere Metro Station, Pattanagere, Rajarjeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru 560098. I have changed my name to Smita S Bengeri vide affidavit dated:11/12/2025 before notary S R Thulasikrishna

WE A.C.Arun Thyagarajan and Raagini Arun Thyagarajan R/o Flat 210 Sumuka Greenville 138/6, Sarvabhouma Nagar, Billekhalli, Bangalore 560076 have changed my minor daughter name from Shraddha to Shraddha Arun Thyagarajan, age 6 years for all purposes

Bennett & Coleman
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. All creatives marked as Advertorial, Spotlight and Promotional Features are to be treated as Advertisements. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

ADMISSION OPEN

VION PROPERTIES PVT. LTD.
(Builders, Devlopers, Promoters)
No 205, 2nd Floor, 6, Salapuria Money Chambers,
KH Road, Shanthinagar, Bangalore 560027

PRIME OPPORTUNITY !!!

Invest Rs.800/- Per SQFT In Bangalore south district, next to Bannerghatta National Forest, excellent forest view for Eco nature lovers, Hill Climb- Hilltop- Forest view, Agriculture Farmland plots, close to Bangalore city, Quarter acre (10,000 sqft) & Half acre(20,000 sqft) adjacent to Bannerghatta Forest off Jigani /Anekal - Harohalli main 80 feet road

VICINITY

- 500 Mtrs to Main Road
- 750 Mtrs to Thatekere
- 800 Mtrs to Proposed STRR (Satellite Town Ring Road) 120: Feet
- 4 Kms To IIM (Indian Institute Of Management) New Campus 250 Acres
- 5 Kms To KHB (Karnataka Housing Board) Suryacity
- 5.5 Kms to Proposed International Standard Sports Stadium By Govt Of Karnataka
- 15 Kms to Jigani and Anekal
- 17 Kms to Harohalli
- 38 Kms to Bangalore Via Bannerghatta
- 49 Kms To Bangalore Via Harohalli

ONLY FEW PLOTS AVAILABLE !!!
CONTACT
7411692219 / 9632642940
E-mail: vionproperties@gmail.com

Social stigma biggest barrier to justice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

2,813 are still pending trial, and 807 cases remain under investigation. However, while several cases are still under trial, a large number have ended in acquittal due to lack of evidence, hostile witnesses, or delays in investigation and prosecution.

A legal expert explained the zero-conviction rate as a deeply troubling sign of systemic failures. "When not even one survivor receives justice, it becomes clear that the system is breaking down at several stages. It's not just about weak investigations or cases falling apart in court, one of the major reasons is that victims and their families often turn hostile due to social stigma, intimidation by the accused or local influencers, or pressure to agree to out-of-court settlements.

The lengthy trial process further adds to their emotional burden, making survivors hesitant to repeatedly relive their trauma," Ankalagi said.

"Children below the age of six do not have the cognitive stability to form clear sentences or describe incidents accurately. They only understand concepts like good touch and bad touch they cannot comprehend harassment. In a young child's mind, the only question is, 'What happened to me?' They are often in shock, confused, and emotionally shattered. At such times, parents naturally focus on the child's mental stability, and many even try to shield or protect them," she added.

According to Rajalaxmi, in nearly 80% of POCSO cases involving children aged 1 to 14, the accused is usually someone known to the child. Most children spend time within familiar circles, and despite parents closely observing them, they often fear social consequences. Families worry about being boycotted from social gatherings or losing relationships, so they choose to hide the incident. Due to this social stigma, even when the accused is known, families still conceal information. As a result, police officials struggle to gather evidence.

"In the case of older children, some families do come forward to file complaints. However, if crucial evidence is not collected on time, its value diminishes. For instance, FSL medical samples must ideally be collected within 48 hours; after that, evidence can be lost because the child may bathe, change clothes, and go about routine activities. During these critical 48 hours, parents are often overwhelmed, unsure whether to file a complaint or not. By the time they decide, precious time has already passed.

A family's first priority is usually to take the child to a hospital, not a police station, and to console and stabilise them. In this process, vital evidence is unintentionally lost," the advocate said.

Case of consensus

Legal experts say among children aged 15 to 18, many cases arise from consensual relationships that later get misinterpreted or misused. "When caste factors come into play, families sometimes file false complaints. Often these situations stem from teenage attraction, which proper counselling about education and the future can resolve. But some parents react emotionally, questioning how the boy touched the girl and, under current laws, may alter the narrative. In several cases, the girl may still have feelings for the boy, leading to inconsistent statements.

Police often recognise mutual involvement through circumstantial evidence. Yet, despite misuse in some situations, many cases reported are genuine crimes," the expert said.

Whether the survivor is a boy or a girl, cases could progress much faster if they were handled with greater sensitivity and proper procedure, they said.

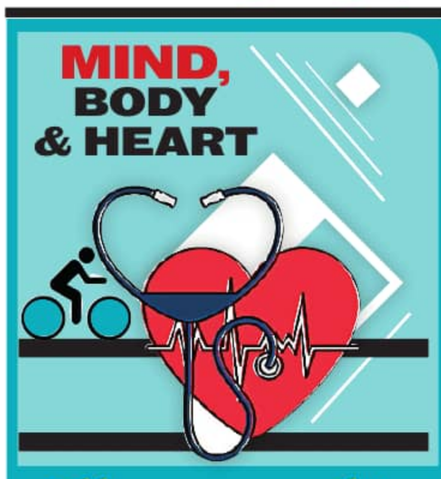
"Unfortunately, awareness about these systems remains very low. While children receive some guidance through textbooks and school programmes, there is still no structured mechanism to educate parents. Social stigma continues to be a major barrier.

Many people humiliate victims, cast unfounded accusations, or claim that families file cases only for compensation. Due to such judgement and pressure, several families hesitate to approach the police."

Ankalagai said that sometimes even when evidence is strong, witnesses may avoid court or change their statements. "Long trials further drain victims emotionally, causing them to disengage and weakening the case. Although POCSO mandates that trials conclude within a year, many cases drag on for years, affecting witness memory and availability. The absence of robust witness protection, psycho-social support, and trained counsellors forces survivors to repeatedly relive their trauma in stressful court settings, discouraging full participation in the legal process," she said.

HEALTH TIP: Yogurt, especially the probiotic-rich kind, is a great food for both gut and mental health

Recent studies have highlighted almonds' potential as a prebiotic, supporting the growth of beneficial gut bacteria



All you need to know about...

Teen drug use

Average age 13 years
School-going children are picking up drug and smoking habits and engaging in consumption of alcohol, with the average age of introduction to such harmful substances found to be around 13 years, suggesting a need for earlier interventions as early as primary school, a multi-city survey by AIIMS-Delhi said.

Substance use rises in higher grades
The findings also showed substance use increased in higher grades, with grade XI/XII students two times more likely to report use of substances when compared with grade VIII students.

Study
The study led by Dr Anju Dhawan of AIIMS's National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre, published in the National Medical Journal of India this month, looks at adolescent substance use across diverse regions.
The survey included 5,920 students from classes 8, 9, 11 and 12 in urban government, private and rural schools across 10 cities -- Bengaluru, Chandigarh, Delhi, Dibrugarh, Hyderabad, Imphal, Jammu, Lucknow, Mumbai, and Ranchi.

Worrying figures
The average age of initiation for any substance was 12.9 (2.8) years. It was lowest for inhalants (11.3 years) followed by heroin (12.3 years) and opioid pharmaceuticals (without prescription; 12.5 years).
Overall, 15.1 per cent of participants reported lifetime use, 10.3 per cent reported past year use, and 7.2 per cent reported use in the past month of any substance, the study found.
The most common substances used in the past year, after tobacco (4 per cent) and alcohol (3.8 per cent), were opioids (2.8 per cent), followed by cannabis (2 per cent) and inhalants (1.9 per cent). Use of non-prescribed pharmaceutical opioids was most common among opioid users (90.2 per cent).

—PTI

TIS THE SEASON

To be merry and to bake some XMas goodies

GINGER BREAD COOKIE

INGREDIENTS
Cookie Dough:
- 375 gm all-purpose flour
- 150 gm brown sugar
- 4 gm baking soda
- 8 gm cinnamon powder
- 6 gm ginger powder
- 1 gm clove powder
- 5 gm salt
- 170 gm unsalted butter
- 180 ml dark molasses
- 30 ml milk

For Frosting:
- 28 gm butter
- 240 gm powdered sugar
- 30 ml milk

METHOD
- Add flour, brown sugar, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, cloves and salt to a mixing bowl and mix.
- Add the butter pieces and use a pastry blender to cut the butter in until the mixture resembles fine meal.
- With a mixer running on low speed gradually add the molasses and milk and mix until combined, about 30 seconds.
- Divide the dough in half, forming each into a ball. Wrap each in plastic wrap and refrigerate for 2 hours or overnight, or place in the freezer for about 20 minutes, until firm, if you're in a hurry. (Refrigeration is mandatory or the dough will be too sticky to handle).
- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.
- Remove one dough sheet from the fridge/freezer and place on a well-floured counter. Lightly flour the top of the dough and the rolling pin and roll out the dough (dust with a little more flour if needed), until it's about ½ inch thick. Cut gingerbread men and place them on prepared baking sheets.
- Refrigerate the gingerbread men for 5 minutes.
- Bake the cookies until set in the centres and the dough barely retains and imprint when touched very gently with fingertip, 8 to 11 minutes (depending on the size of your cookie cutter). Do not overbake!!
- Remove the cookies to a wire rack. Allow to cool to room temperature before frosting.

For Frosting:
- Add butter, milk and powdered sugar to a bowl. Mix until smooth. Add additional cup of powdered sugar and mix until smooth. Add frosting to piping bag if desired. Use the piping bag to draw a design of your choice on the cookie.

STOLLEN BREAD

Soak Overnight:
- 150 grams raisins
- 100 grams slivered almonds
- 30 ml rum
- boiling water
- Roux: · 30 grams all-purpose flour
- 150 ml milk
- Starter: 100 ml milk · 14 grams active-dry yeast 2 pouches · 100 grams all-purpose flour
- Main Dough: · 250 grams butter
- 75 grams granulated sugar · ½ teaspoon cinnamon · 1 pinch nutmeg · ¼ teaspoon salt · 400 grams all-purpose flour · 1 vanilla bean
- 1 teaspoon orange zest
- While Shaping: · 100 grams marzipan shape into two logs right before adding in
- After Baking: · 50 grams butter · 50 grams sugar
- After Cooling: · 150 grams powdered sugar

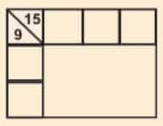
METHOD
- First make your roux by combining the flour and milk in a pot and heat for about 3 minutes while constantly stirring. The consistency should be like a thick pudding. Put in a bowl and let it cool.
- For the sponge dough, heat the milk to Luke warm, then stir together with the yeast and let it sit and activate for 5 minutes. If the mixture is not bubbly, start over. Your milk has been too hot or too cold.
- Add the flour and knead together. Put in a small bowl, cover airtight and let rest in a warm spot for 45 minutes.
- For the main dough, combine the room temperature butter, spices, sugar and salt and whip until creamy.
- Drain any liquids from the raisin-almond mixture.
- Scrape the vanilla bean and add to the bowl with the raisins. Zest the lemon and orange and add to the bowl with the raisins.
- In a large bowl, add the flour, butter-sugar mixture, the roux and sponge dough. Knead together until combined. Now add the raisin-almond-zest-vanilla mixture and knead until combined.
- Cover the bowl airtight and let rest in a warm spot for 1 to 2 hours. The dough should have doubled in size.
- Divide the dough in two and shape each dough into an oval shape. Do not knead the dough, but just gently shape it instead. Kneading will release too many air bubbles. Divide the marzipan into 2 and shape two logs the length of the loaves.
- Press a ditch into the loaves, then add the marzipan logs and close the loaves back up, pressing together the seams. The seam will be on top.
- Cover with a linen towel and let rise for 30 more minutes in a warm spot.
- Preheat oven to 200 (390).
- Bake Stollen
- Place loaves on a baking sheet covered with parchment paper and bake on the middle rack for 40 minutes.
- Reduce temperature to 350 for last 15 minutes of baking.
- Bake to 90 or 195 internal temperatures.
- After baking, brush the loaves with melted butter and sprinkle with sugar. Let cool completely.
- Once cooled, cover in powdered sugar.

Recipes by Chef Gobu Kumar, Executive Chef, Rosetta Sakleshpur

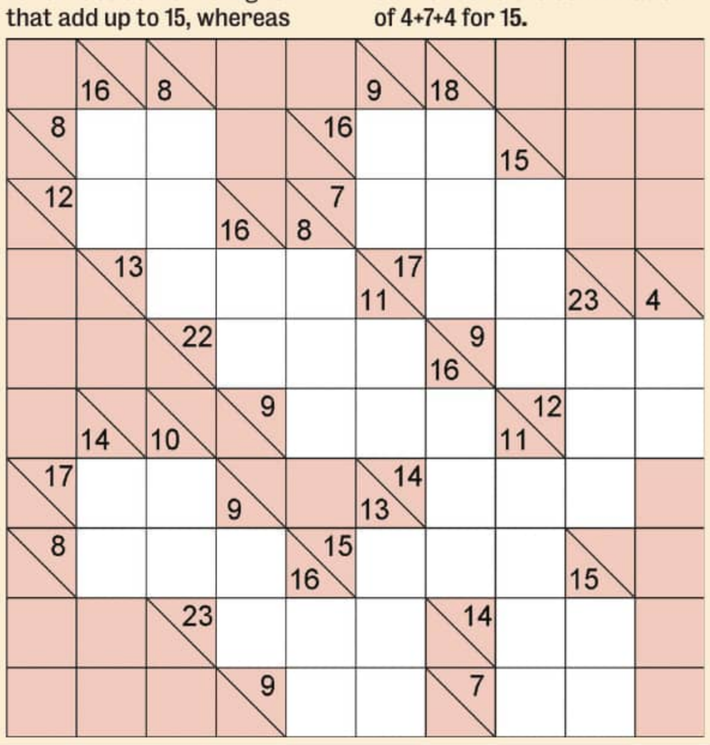
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

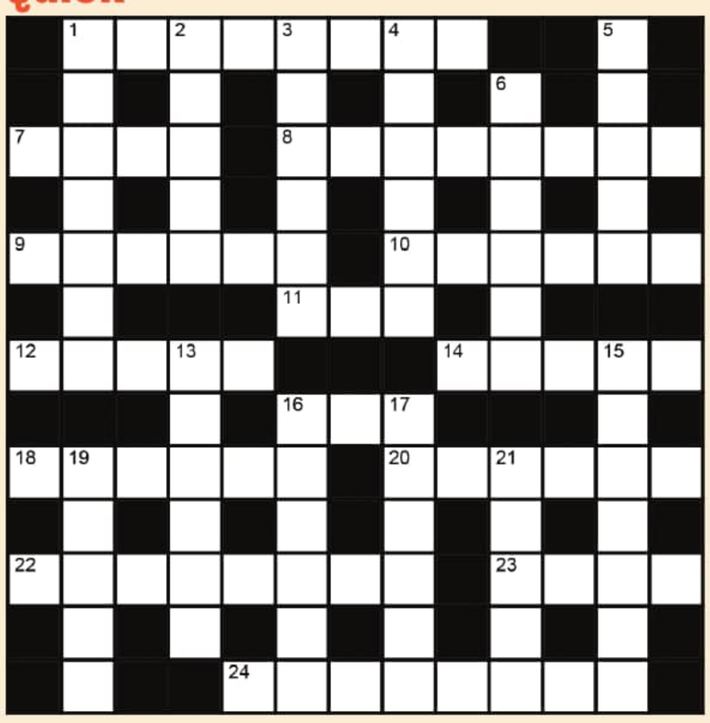
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Dangerous building (8)
7 Famous architect (4)
8 A _____ rise: a dazzlingly rapid rise? (8)
9 Hello singer ___ Ritchie (6)
10 Dissolute (6)
11 Affirmative (3)
12 Beat (5)
14 Small wood (5)
16 Donkey (3)
18 Monasteries or convents (6)
20 Turn upside down (6)
22 Heavy club (8)
23 Concealing headpiece (4)
24 To be paid for later (2,6)

DOWN

1 Restore to freshness of appearance (7)
2 A quarrel or a spat (3,2)
3 Seasonable or opportune (6)
4 Rite structures (6)
5 Bares ones teeth in a smile? (5)
6 Cricket ball pitched under bat (6)
13 Securely balanced (6)
15 Judicial decision (7)
16 Behind at sea? (6)
17 Gentleman (Italian) (6)
19 Bengaluru ___ : Our Pro Kabaddi league side (5)
21 Intensely bright (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS G

JFYBM WBM HBLWNQKYBR HBMYEZYDFYBQM WO WFF OYVQE ZGBEOYOHOQE OSQ KQWF EOKQBROS GU WFF UKQQ VQB.

Linemaro

You must be a keyboard because you are just my type

Mindchow

Good friends are like stars. You do not always see them, but you know they are there

Joke of the day

The fence around a cemetery is foolish, for those inside can't get out and those outside don't want to get in

Loop

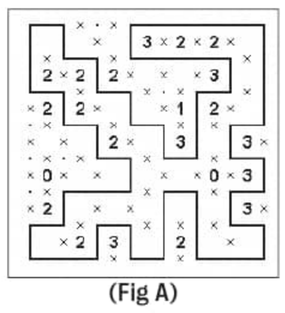
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

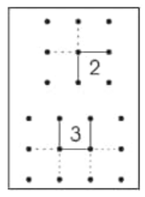
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

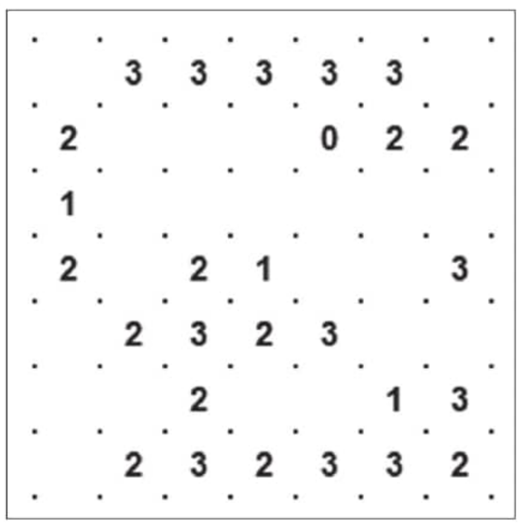
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



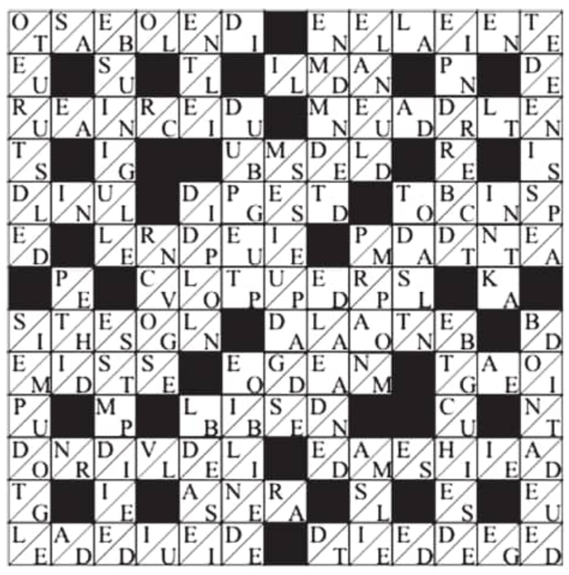
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7			M	
8				
9				

ACROSS

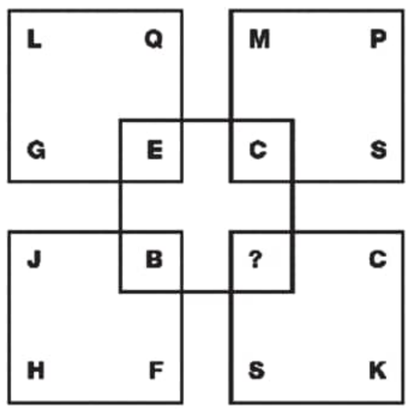
1 Slate; 6 A tray; 7 Stoma; 8 Tones; 9 Gouts

DOWN

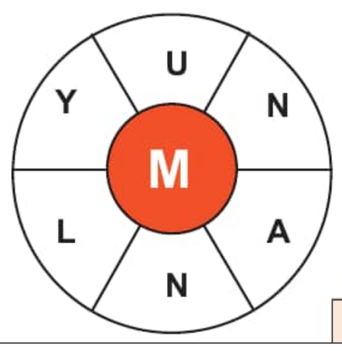
1 Tangs; 2 Out at; 3 Yet so; 4 Tamer; 5 Solas

Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; **05** Good; **07** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	6	2				5	3	
		3	4		5	2		
	5		9		2		8	
8				5				3
		1				8		
3				7				4
	1		7		3		4	
		8	1		4	7		
	2	4				3	9	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 4

2 3 3 4

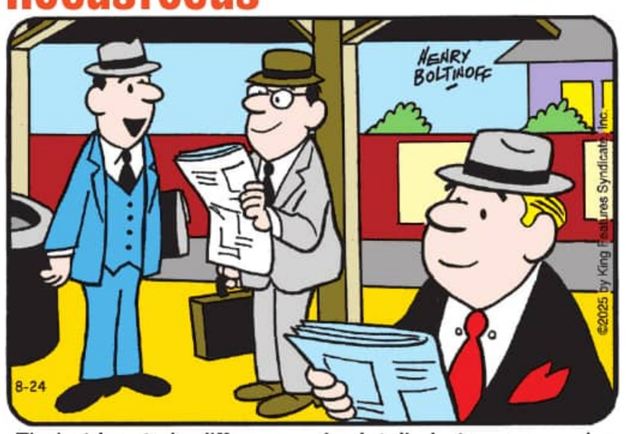
Medium = 12

2 4 7 7

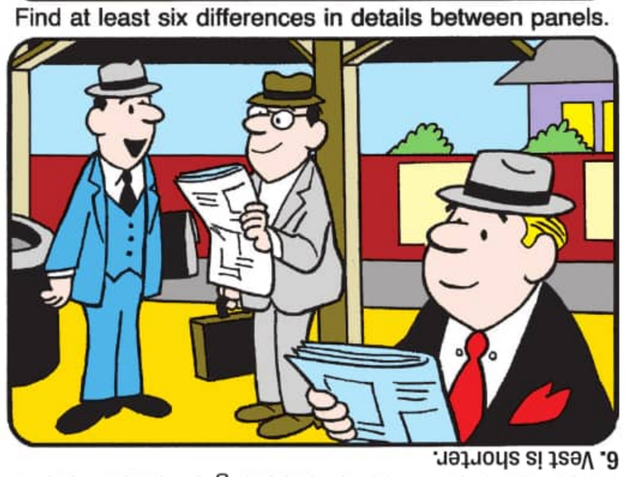
Hard = 9

2 9 9 8

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



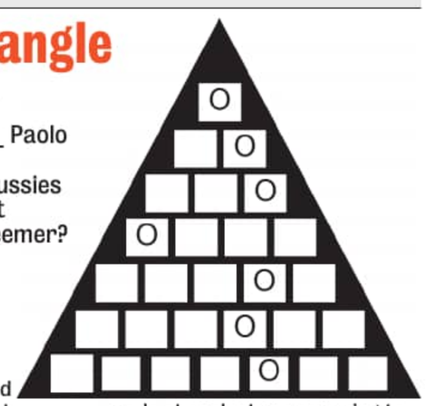
Differences: 1. Briefcase is larger. 2. Tie is missing. 3. Bush is moved. 4. Roof is not as long. 5. Hat is different. 6. Vest is shorter.

Riddler

Which word below is the odd-one-out and why? showed, history, sidewalk, antelope, building & numbest

Alpha triangle

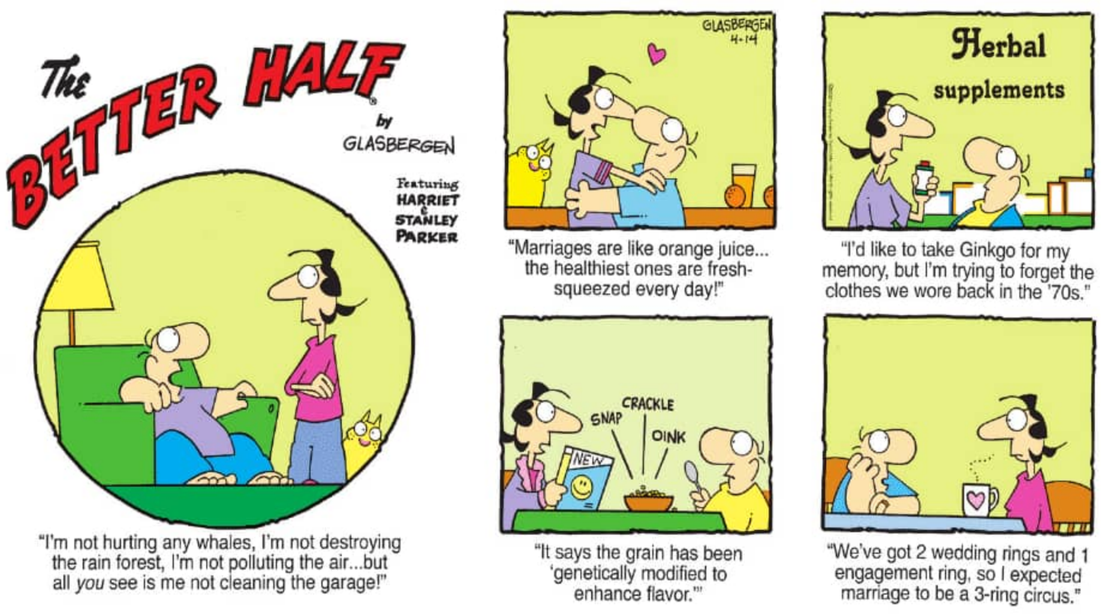
1 Atomic number 8
2 Thus
3 S. American city_ Paolo
4 Rows
5 Afternoons for Aussies
6 Taste with delight
7 Deliverer or redeemer?



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"I'm not hurting any whales, I'm not destroying the rain forest, I'm not polluting the air...but all you see is me not cleaning the garage!"
GLASBERGEN 4-14
"Marriages are like orange juice... the healthiest ones are fresh-squeezed every day!"
Herbal supplements
"I'd like to take Ginkgo for my memory, but I'm trying to forget the clothes we wore back in the '70s."
SNAP
CRACKLE
OINK
NEW
"It says the grain has been 'genetically modified to enhance flavor.'"
"We've got 2 wedding rings and 1 engagement ring, so I expected marriage to be a 3-ring circus."

BABY BLUES
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, MY DAD GAVE ME SOME ADVICE.
WHAT DID HE SAY?
HE SAID THAT THE WAY TO WIN IN LIFE WAS TO GET A GOOD EDUCATION.
OTHERWISE, I MIGHT END UP DIGGING DITCHES.
REALLY?
BIG DITCHES?
YEAH!
ARE WE TALKING SHOVEL OR BACKHOE? OR, A BULLDOZER!
AND MAYBE TUNNELS?
I'D LOVE TO DIG A TUNNEL!
MOM! I'M QUITTING SCHOOL! DAD'S IDEA!
LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN.
FLASH GORDON
WHEN OUR GUNSHIP WAS IN ACTIVE SERVICE, I WAS JUST A JUNIOR AIRMAN.
I WAS ORDERED TO CRAWL INTO COFFIN-WIDE MISSILE TUBES TO CHIP OFF THERMOPLUTONIC RESIDUE WITH A HAND CHISEL.
THEN WE CRASHED IN THE JUNGLE, CUT OFF FROM THE WAR, AND THE CREW'S DYNAMIC... SHIFTED.
FOR TRUE LEADERSHIP COMES FROM THE MOST UNEXPECTED PLACES.
WE ARE ALL DESERTERS FROM EMPEROR MING'S AEROFORCE, LIVING FREE FROM HIS RULE IN THE JUNGLES OF VALKR...
...AND I AM OUR BROTHER LEADER, SOJAS.
AREA PATROL BRINGS IN TWO STRANGERS SPOUTING A BALD-FACED LIE: THEY CLAIM THE EMPEROR HAS FALLEN.
SPIES! MUST BE. EVERY CHILD OF MONGO KNOWS MING IS FOREVER.
BUT ONE OF THEM, THIS DALE ARDEN... INTERESTS ME.
SO FRAGILE. SO SCARED.
THERE JUST MIGHT BE A PLACE FOR HER HERE...
I'LL JUDGE HER IN TRIAL BY COMBAT-- AND ONCE I WIN AND HER PARTNER'S PAID FOR THEIR ESPIONAGE WITH HIS LIFE...
...PERHAPS I'LL... PARDON HER.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENS.
SHE... SHE WINS.
BY LAW, SHE'S PROVEN THEIR CLAIMS ARE TRUE.
SHE MUST'VE CHEATED! YES, THAT'S IT. AND MY "BROTHERS" HAVE FALLEN FOR HER LIES.
BUT NOT ME. NOT SOJAS.
I KNOW MING IS FOREVER.
NEXT: THE FISHER KING

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

A minor household matter requires your attention, Sagittarius, pulling you momentarily away from grander schemes. Handle this quickly and eciently to restore your mental peace. Once resolved, you'll find your focus sharpens considerably. This small act of domestic responsibility unexpectedly clears the path for a major breakthrough in your social life later this week.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

You might feel physically tired today, likely due to the weather. However, your romantic life shines; expect reciprocation from someone special or a thoughtful surprise from your loving partner.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Your emotional walls may distance others, open your heart. Seek advice from trusted friends and accept support at work. Let teamwork and vulnerability strengthen your elationships and lighten your spirit.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

It's a fulfilling day; balance productivity with relaxation. Use your downtime for planning future goals and introspection. Your present feels bright, but your vision can make tomorrow even better.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

Schedule pending health checkups and prioritise wellness. Financial matters can wait; instead, reconnect with loved ones. Spend quality time with family and friends to recharge emotionally and restore balance today.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Stay physically active and try new interests like sports or classes. Movement at work boosts productivity. A property investment might be rewarding if you're ready for something exciting and fresh.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

If hurt, express yourself honestly in relationships. Don't downplay your achievements—shine proudly at work. A chance to showcase your skills could open doors and earn the recognition you deserve.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Be careful while moving around; minor mishaps are possible. Thankfully, good news at home and work brightens your mood, bringing smiles, satisfaction, and a sense of well-deserved joy today.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Avoid political debates or unnecessary disagreements today. Concentrate on career growth and strengthen ties with superiors. After work, embrace peaceful solitude for reflection and inner rejuvenation, it brings valuable clarity.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

Someone you've been thinking about may reach out today, reigniting feelings. Express your heart honestly and enjoy this romantic turn, it's a day of connection, warmth, and emotional openness.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Eat light and healthy to comfort your stomach. Business and work eorts flourish, bringing higher gains. Soak in love from family and friends, it's a heartwarming, prosperous day ahead.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

Start your kindness journey at home and practise patience professionally. Allow others to share ideas. Focus on saving wisely and investing smartly, financial discipline ensures lasting progress and peace.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

Work might feel hectic; organise tasks carefully. Romance, however, brings joy and charm. Step out, meet new people, and spend wisely. Luck supports both your heart and ambitions today.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE

Neha Kaushik, 7 years, Ebenezer International School

Ayesha Arbin, 13 years, Shantiniketan Trust School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

BULL'S EYE aluni, amyl, manly, many, maul, unman, UNMANLY

RIDDLER sidewalk; Within all of the other words there are two words which overlap with each other such that the last letter of the first word is also the first letter of the second word. showed includes show and Wed, history includes his and Story, antElope includes ante and Elope, building includes build and Ding, numBest includes numB and Best

FAST FIVE

S	T	E	A	L
T	A	Y	R	A
A	T	O	M	S
N	O	T	E	S
G	U	S	T	O

SOLVE IN 1M

[27+5*(-5)]^3-24
[27 - 25] ° 3-24
6 - 24 = - 18

STRIKE OUT

T	A	B	L	E	D		E	L	A	I	N	E	D	D
U	L	L	I	D		M	A		N	D	D	L	E	E
R	A	N	C	I	D	M	U	D	D	L	E		S	E
T	G		U	S	E	D		E	E		S		D	A
L	I	L	I	G	E	T		O	B	I	S		L	E
L	I	L	I	E	N		C		N		C		O	D
S	H	E	O	L		A	L	A	T	E		B		M
	P		C	O	P	P	E	R	S		K			U
E	N	D	U	E		P	A	T	N	A				E
	E		S		R	A	N	K	I	S	H			

QUICK

				O	N	C	R	E	D	I	T			

MENSA PUZZLE

H. Going clockwise around each square, the letters increase in value in steps presented by the central square.

QUOTE UNCODE

Blind and unwavering undisciplined at all times constitutes the real strength of all free men.

SUDOKU

4	6	2	8	1	7	5	3	9
9	8	3	4	6	5	2	1	7
1	5	7	9	3	2	4	8	6
8	4	6	2	5	1	9	7	3
2	7	1	3	4	9	8	6	5
3	9	5	6	7	8	1	2	4
5	1	9	7	2	3	6	4	8
6	3	8	1	9	4	7	5	2
7	2	4	5	8	6	3	9	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE

0, So, Sao, Arvos, Savour, Saviour.

GO FIGURE

Easy
2 + 3 + 3 - 4 = 4
Medium
7 - 4 + 7 + 2 = 12
Hard
2 - 9 + 8 x 9 = 9

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 18, Issue No 050 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22325 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore–560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru–560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon–responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Amy Schumer announces separation from husband Chris Fischer— American actor-comedian Amy Schumer is parting ways with her husband, Chris Fischer, after seven years of marriage

With all due RESPECT....

Sayani says every person on sets should be valued for their work, not their stature

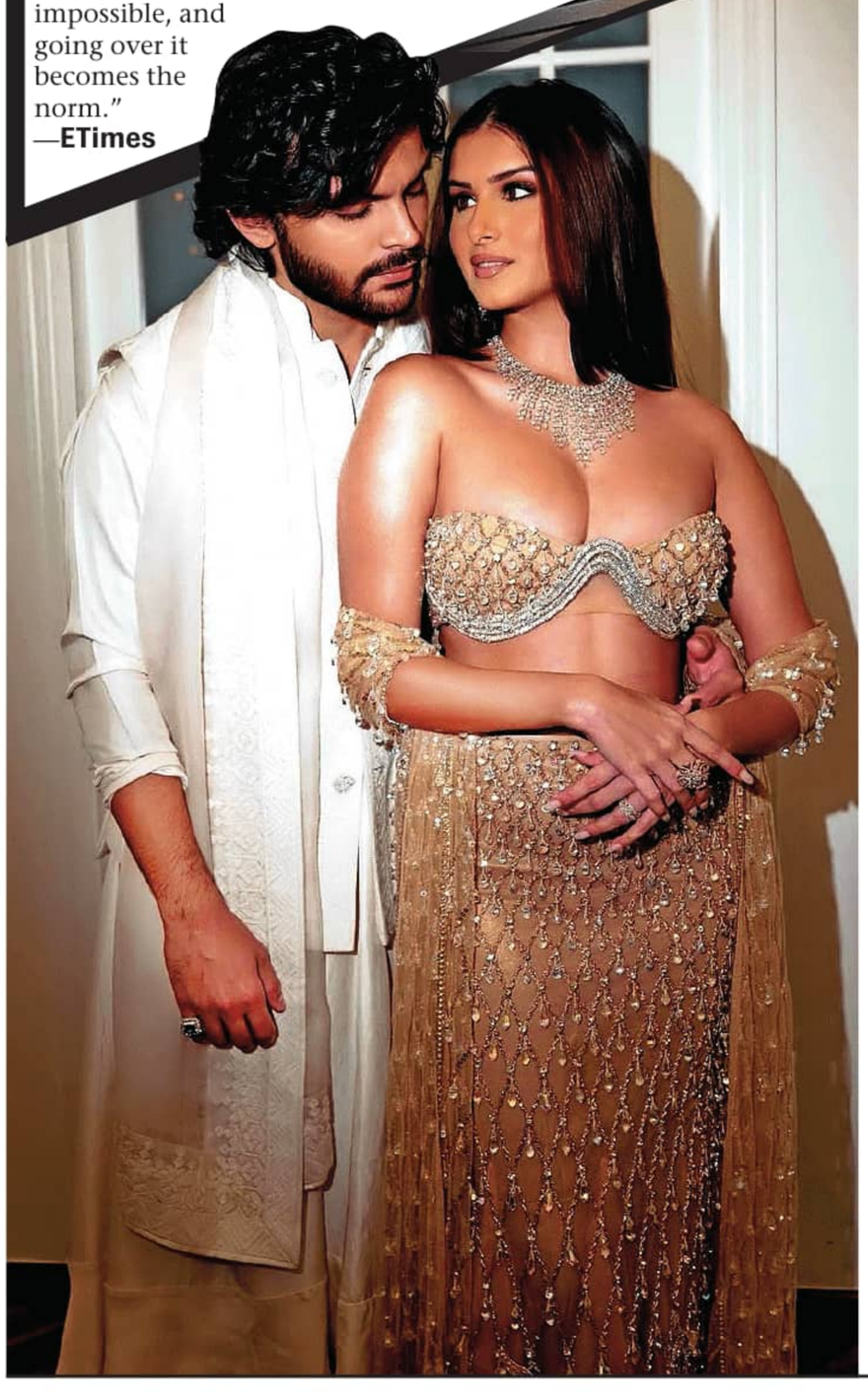
In an industry known for chaotic schedules, long shoot hours, and a culture where hierarchy often dictates punctuality, Sayani Gupta believes true progress can only come when time and labour are respected equally across the filmmaking ecosystem. She feels the widening gap between stars, actors, and crew will narrow only when every person on set is valued for their contribution rather than their stature.

She explains, "Everybody works hard. Yes, acting is a taxing job if you're doing it right, but the person carrying huge lights and travelling long distances by train is working far harder than the actors do."

For Sayani, professionalism must be rooted in equality. She says, "Professionalism begins with respecting everyone's time. If you have a meeting with a CEO or a big director, you make sure you are not late because of their social standing. But when the meeting is with someone considered lower in the hierarchy, people feel they can afford to be late. Punctuality should come from valuing every person equally, not from where they stand socially."

She acknowledges that filmmaking is unpredictable and labor-intensive, and delays are inevitable. Yet, she believes better systems can ease the workday. She shares, "In my 14 years in the industry, I have been on only three or four sets where people are not racing to finish the day, usually because those are bigger budgets. Sticking to the schedule is almost impossible, and going over it becomes the norm."

—ETimes



Tracking a love story

Tara Sutaria and Veer Pahariya officially confirmed their relationship in July 2025, putting an end to months of fan buzz and media speculation. Rumours about their romance had been circulating for weeks, triggered by glimpses of their vacation pictures and Veer's frequent presence at Tara's fashion outings.

Now, the couple has opened up about how their love story began, sharing insights into the first chapter of their relationship.

During a recent conversation with Travel + Leisure India, Tara and Veer looked back on their first date and their debut getaway as a couple. Sharing a glimpse into the early days of their relationship, Veer reflected on what makes their bond special, saying, "I love that we have embraced our affection and love since our first date and have never shied away from expressing how we feel wherever we are." Talking about the turning points in their relationship, Veer shared that one unforgettable moment took place during the early days of their romance. He said that it was probably their first date night, where he played the piano, and Tara sang until the sun came out. Sutaria, however, believes their bond deepened gradually rather than being defined by a single instance. "Sticking by each other through thick and thin as if we have known each other our whole lives," she said. **—ETimes**

Sloppy drunkard's saga

PEOTU

2.0 RATING ★★☆☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Karthik Rajan
- **ACTORS** Likith MN, Ashwini Chavare, Ganesh DS, Manjula Reddy, and Jayanth Shivaji
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 148 minutes

It is not clear what director-cum-producer Karthik Rajan intended to convey to the audiences through the movie Peotu. We all know that alcohol is injurious to health, but most of the characters in the movie are seen emptying liquor bottles for one or the other reason. The director included the scenes of a rehab center and another scene where a parish priest is seen counseling the hero but the movie fails to justify why everybody is drinking so much whether it be to celebrate a relationship or mourn a breakup.

The movie does emphasise on the importance of hard work and focus to succeed in business.

The movie is about Peter Patrick (Likith MN), a software engineer, who wants to present a memorable gift to his wife Reeta (Ashwini Chavare) on her birthday but his better half has other ideas. Peter brings the gift and an egg puff while coming home in the evening but only to find Reeta eloping with her lover. Unable to cope with the betrayal, Peter becomes Peotu Peter and hits the bottle with a vengeance. He gets a pink slip from his employer. Later, he starts a tea stall but fails to focus on it.

Meanwhile, he goes to Mysuru along with his friends. He happens to see Reeta with another person. You have to watch the movie to know what happens to Peter.

Likith has tried his best to prove his mettle. He is good at dancing. Ashwini Chavare, who is paired opposite Likith, appears in a few scenes. Songs are meant only for tipplers. Music by BR Hemanth Kumar is catchy.

The movie is worth a watch if you have no other option to spend your time.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Balanced view on paps

Jaya Bachchan recently stated that she has "zero" relationship with paparazzi. Amid this, actor Huma Qureshi offered a more balanced view, acknowledging the system's flaws while also recognising how celebrities actively engage with and benefit from paparazzi visibility.

In an interview with India Today, Huma admitted that the relationship between celebrities and paparazzi is not one-sided. She described her equation with the paparazzi is good and healthy. She said, "I think they are also important. I won't lie, but we use them when we need to promote our films or bring a certain aspect of our lives into the public eye. There have been times when we needed to promote our films, so we invited them to premieres." She noted that it would be unfair to hold photographers solely responsible when celebrities themselves invite attention at times, "When we want to be spotted somewhere, we call them. I don't want to put all the blame on them."

Huma also addressed the darker side of the culture, especially for women. She shared that intrusive questions, uncomfortable camera angles, and inappropriate curiosity are common experiences. She said, "If you want to intrude on my privacy, you will ask questions that I won't find appropriate… There's a limit people should not cross, but we do cross it. As a female actress, I have experienced all of this". **—ETimes**